

Maclean's

Canada's

Weekly Newsmagazine

March 27, 2000 www.macleans.ca

CHRETIEN
The Real
Fight Begins

OSCAR 2000
Good Flicks,
Bad Picks

EXCLUSIVE

Canadian Aces

Three
fighter pilots
relive their
dramatic and
frustrating
missions over
Kosovo

By Bruce Wallace

\$4.50



Pilots Sylvain Faucher,
Alain Pelletier and
Yves Tessier

Leadership as a blood sport

Jean Chrétien was in good company last week. Of the nation's eight prime ministers since 1957, only two have never faced a sustained, open challenge to their leadership: Liberal Lester Pearson and Conservative Brian Mulroney—and they left office knowing their days had come. (The women find Kim Campbell's fall, there has been nothing quite like last week's bare-knuckled attempt by Finance Minister Paul Martin's squad to tackle Chrétien since the Tories' "Dump Diefenbaker" cabal of the 1960s—except perhaps the efforts by Chrétien's camp to dump John Turner and Brian Mulroney's losses to dump Joe Clark.)

Still, when 15 Liberal MPs met secretly to plot strategy against their leader in a Toronto airport hotel a week before their biannual convention, the Prime Minister had to bring out the big guns. He named his campaign team for the next election and on Friday night told Liberals in Ottawa he was saying just "This," he said gravely, "is my life."

John Diefenbaker, of course, faced a worse fate: a slow, lingering, political death. It featured an open revolt by several high-profile cabinet ministers and a

meeting in Ottawa's Château Laurier Hotel on a chill November night in 1965 so laced with mendacity he looked out and demanded: "Is this a Conservative meeting?"

That the Martinians mounted such a misguided effort on the eve of last week's gathering, with their party riding high in the polls, attests why they do not hold the levers of power. It was a dumb move. And when Martin himself, last week, tried to downplay the secret meeting of his opposites, he managed to look about as comfortable as Ted Turner's Canada's Jane Stewart explaining why Chrétien's riding gets more government grants than all of Alberta.

As past leadership challenges have shown, Chrétienism is only beginning. The leadership game is out of the bottle and not even last weekend's convention love-in for Chrétien will put it back. The Liberal party knows that as strength in the polls could change abruptly.

That is precisely what happened to Pierre Trudeau in the late 1970s. Within four years of his majority victory in 1974, the Liberals ousted Joe Clark's Conservatives and the party was re-born. John Turner was waiting in the

wings and the anti-Trudeau faction mobilized. In 1979, one dissident publicly blasted the party's misfortunes as Trudeau's "ineffectiveness, inactivity and lack of judgment." But despite losing the election in 1979, Trudeau received the gift of even worse judgment by Joe Clark and his Tories, and scurried back to office in 1980.

Clark soon faced grumbling within his ranks. As a convention in Winnipeg in 1983, 66.9 per cent of delegates voted against a leadership convention. Yet Clark was feeling so keen by Mulroney supporters that he decided that was not enough to end the unrest. He called for a convention, and lost to Mulroney by 297 votes on the fourth ballot.

Last week, it was Chrétien's turn. He's an old pro who has seen it all. "Be patient," he cautioned. In following his own advice, he was the closest thing to Round 1.

Robert Lewis

roblewis@trouthead.ca to comment on From the Editor



Newsroom Notes Tales from the war

A year ago, Ottawa Bureau Chief Bruce Wallace was on the ground in northern Albania, reporting for *Maclean's* on the expulsion of Kosovo's ethnic Albanians, as NATO jets nixed 4,500 in fact overland. For this week's cover package, Wallace went to Baguville, Que., where Canadian fighter pilots told him about their ex-



Wallace after his flight over northern

perence in the Kosovo war (page 18). While he was there, he took the piece together in an hour-long CF-18 training

flight—and was proud that he managed to avoid being struck. "The pilots were thoughtful about what they had been asked to do," Wallace says. "They are not warmongers. They're proud of having accustomed themselves with our allies and wanted to tell their story."

Assistant Photo Editor Phil Snell photographed the pilots, and Senior Writer Tom Fennell interviewed some of the refugees from Kosovo who have made their homes in Canada. The cover package was designed by Art Director Nick Barnes.

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Devastating diseases

I have just finished reading Christopher Young's "Descent into Alzheimer's" (Cover, March 13). Wow. What an amazing piece. My grandmother died when I was 10 (18 years ago), after suffering with Alzheimer's for two or three years. Back then, no one really knew what Alzheimer's was. Since then, of course, public awareness has grown substantially, and I'm now

Alzheimer's started our part later on, with lots to think and act up, and a way to say it. Young's first-person account bridges the gap between "before" and "after."

Kari Sankari, North Vancouver

As a volunteer with the Quebec ALS Society, thank-you for giving such timely information on ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), the neurological disease so few people know anything about ("The terrible mist"). As you rightly said, there is no strong lobby for this orphan disease howling on Parliament Hill. Families have no time or energy to invest in anything more than caring for their loved ones slowly dying of a devastating disease that robs them of everything except their mind. More information means more concern, and more concern means more money for research and services.

Angèle Desgagné, Montreal

My mom was diagnosed with ALS last November (she also suffers from coronary loss). She is 93. I was with her in the doctor's office when she was told why a specialist was sending her to another specialist to find out why her leg muscles were atrophying. After we left the office, we stood on the sidewalk clutching each other so hard, crying to the depths of our souls. I've never felt such utter sadness. My mom lives on her own, but has family and several good friends nearby. We are all here to help her and each other, through this. But we were devastated by this news. Then, we decided to get involved with the ALS Society of British Columbia. We discovered that not many people know about ALS, or about the devastating effects it has on the victim and the family. Your article is exactly the type of coverage these diseases need to bring them to people's attention.

Bonnie Burdick, Delta, B.C.

Despair over hazing

As a hockey parent for many years, I was not surprised to read the article "The hell of hazing" (Cover, March 6). That no solutions were forthcoming did not surprise me either. Until the word hazing is defined in black-and-white, how can regulation be applied? To tell players that hazing is not acceptable without asking them if they understood its meaning, and the consequences if caught, perpetuates the problem. As it stands, the word is open to interpretation and used, or misused, for a variety of incidents or crimes. That gives coaches/makes an expedient excuse when dealing with any potential embarrassment to their good name. My point is that we will never see an officially adopted definition of hazing as it applies to sport, educational institutions or the military.

Ann McIlven, Calgary

Two different cases

In "Survival games" (Canada, March 6), an otherwise fair article, (Diane) Scott of the market research firm Angus Reid Group is quoted as saying that "the last two NDP premiers have resigned in disgrace." Glen Chalk's resignation after a result of the canoe licensing affair is an entirely different matter from my resigning from politics. I was incensed to see my decision to resign as my choice reported as resigning in disgrace. Whatever pressures were alleged to be brought to bear on me, I chose to "take a break" for the B.C. NDP so I could live and fight another day.

Mike Hancock, Vancouver

Soccer glory

When the Canadian national soccer team won the Gold Cup, you give them a minuscule mention in *Ovenator* ("Ooh, Canada" March 13). Have you gone mad? Recently, you wallowed in hockey player Donald Brashear's blood ("Blood sport," Cover, March 6) and bailed in Siddle Nadeau. MacMurray's

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Young with his wife, Anna, and their dog, Kaja. "A huge lump on my throat"

approaching the age when I'm starting to worry about my mom and what her chances of developing the disease might be (and I guess, eventually, my own, too). Young's article is so brave and personal it put a huge lump in my throat. I think it's easy to forget that people who have advanced stages of

Letters to the Editor

should be addressed to:
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stantly perfection ("Sweetness and light on a fiddle," *Music*, March 6). Then, you wound up on critical pieces such as "Juno those fun facts" (*Overture*, March 13), where you included a catalogue of Céline Dion's Juno efforts from 1993 to 1999. Do you have any idea what it means for Canada to be ranked 85th in the world and hear teams like Mexico and Colombia to win the Gold Cup? Apparently such a glorious international upset lacks newsworthiness. You missed a chance to celebrate a great Canadian win at a time when the country could use something to bind us. Too bad.

Lorne Hines, Lexington, Ont.

French music

French radio and television outlets have a much more inclusive music format than English-speaking Canadian stations do. Songs and videos by English-speaking artists are in regular rotation with French singles and videos. Anglophone listeners are subject to right formats that assure listeners only work to hear English-language music. This narrow-casting is reflected in your story about the performer appearing on the Juno Awards ("Bright Juno lights," *Music*, March 13). Canadian French-language CDs reach gold and platinum sales in Canada and internationally. The Junos should showcase the best Canada has to offer in any language.

Philine Campbell, Richmond Hill, Ont.

Smoke and mirrors?

Your chart "A little more" showed the savings from the tax cut announced in the federal budget—and they are pennies ("Please, do we want more," *Business*, March 13). I'm very disappointed, and it looks like I won't change my plans to go to the United States when my salary hits \$70,000. This is what is called a brain drain, but it's just people who want to make a profit from their own energy and talent. Dec. 32 and I work in a computer programmer. I

work hard trying to progress in my career. I don't have a spouse or kids, so I'm the only person I can count on. I pay almost half of my income in various taxes. The budget's cuts are too small to be a serious argument for spending my best career time in Canada, the country I love and don't want to leave. And I feel sorry if I'm pushed to go.

Danil Potvin, Ottawa

Why is it that people who have so much seem to want so much more? The Dollars, with their income of about \$85,000, are already far ahead of people like myself—frankly at least—yet they waste about the same cost of gasoline. I support a family of four on slightly more than half of their income. I pay off our credit card each month, and keep the grocery bill as low as I can, but I have a student loan. Those payments represent a real obstacle to our ability to save for a house or other typical family purchases. I have contributed only once to an RRSP because there simply isn't any money left at the end of each month. Yet in spite of the obstacles in my family life, I find myself thinking "Good news, \$400 extra each year." I feel certain that many of the so-called problems faced by those wealthier than myself are manufactured or imagined.

Ed Minko, Victoria

You examined how Paul Martin's budget affected regular Canadians. Your sample included a couple earning \$85,000 a year and spending \$30 a week on groceries—now that's a story! This family deserves a cover story of their own to try to help the rest of us save for retirement.

Susan Ginn, Aurora, Ont.

"The best skip"

Why would a Canadian assume like carter Sandra Schneider be called away so suddenly? In just 50 years, a life to remember. Obituary, March 13. I guess God needed the best skip in the business.

Rob Delaney, Mississauga, Ont.

Macleans

Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine

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Automotive Marketplace

ONTARIO

New Ways To Buy a Vehicle



Dennis DesRosiers

It's true. It is a rare consumer who does not like to go shopping, be it for clothes, jewelry, entertainment equipment or a new vehicle. But the emphasis in a pleasant shopping experience should be on the word buy rather than the word sell.

Although people enjoying buying things, most consumers have a strong dislike for being sold something. One of the obvious examples is life insurance, but also very high on the list would be vehicles. And again I put the emphasis on the word sold.

One of the fundamental problems the auto sector faces is that over the last 15 to 20 years it has turned the purchasing of a new vehicle into a selling process and away from being a buying process. At the root of this situation is the inbuilt life improvement in quality and durability engineered into new vehicles over that period. To be quite frank, most consumers shopping for a vehicle do not need a new one. They could go without, not for one or two years, but probably for four or five years if they were really pressed.

The prime new buyer is currently driving a four- to eight-year-old vehicle and generally there would be very little wrong with a vehicle of this vintage. To be sure, repair costs creep up with older vehicles (see CAA repair cost table), but even at a \$1,000-per-year outlay for maintenance, it is a lot less expensive to repair an older vehicle than to buy a new one. The average transaction price for a new vehicle to land in your driveway was close to \$30,000 in 1999.

However, a new vehicle does have many advantages when compared to an older vehicle. New vehicles

- are more reliable
- have the latest in safety equipment
- have the latest technology
- are nicer to look at
- have that new car smell
- have the latest design features

All of which come at a considerable cost. There are many reasons other than high repair costs to force a consumer into the vehicle market. Lifestyle changes, such as marriages, divorces, and children, would rank very high. Changes in economic status such as a new job, a big raise or the loss of a job would also be key considerations. But despite these factors, most consumers could make do with the vehicles they are currently driving. They would like to have a new vehicle but they do not have to have a new vehicle.

However, at the retail level of the value chain, the livelihood of most executives in the automotive industry is dependent on consumers buying new vehicles on a regular basis. As the need for regularly replacing your vehicle declined over the years, the pressure on most retailers to sell new vehicles dramatically increased.

Because of this, the industry has switched the purchase process from a buying experience into a selling experience and this turns a lot of consumers off. It should not surprise anyone that customer satisfaction with new vehicle purchasing has generally deteriorated over the years and is now below acceptable standards.

Some manufacturers and their dealers are aggressively trying to address this problem. Toyota Canada Inc., for

instance, recently launched a pilot project in Manitoba and Kenora, Ont., called Access Toyota. Once tested, it will be rolled out across Canada, probably within a year.

From my perspective, Access Toyota puts the purchase or buying process back into the hands of the consumer by combining advanced communications technology with advanced sales training. This makes it easier, more convenient, more customer-focused, more visible and generally a nicer way to buy a vehicle. Ideally, with this program, Toyota consumers will once again be able to buy a vehicle rather than go through the painful process of being sold a vehicle.

At the heart of Access Toyota is a pricing system that takes the intimidation factor out of negotiating for a new car. Individual model prices will be set on a geographic market basis intended to offer customers an up-front, real-world transaction price. This price will always be lower than the Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP), but Toyota Canada will continue to publish the MSRP so that consumers may make direct comparisons. The Access Toyota price is determined by the dealers, not by Toyota Canada.

Access Toyota prices are freely available through the Toyota Web site, www.accesstoyota.ca, from the Toyota Call Centre, or from any Access Toyota dealer. This approach

2000 Volvo S80 – The Best Volvo Car Ever

Volvo designs any of the S80 that they wanted to create the safest Volvo ever. The long list of awards gathered since the car's introduction suggests that they succeeded in creating the best Volvo ever.

Development of the S80 began when Volvo anticipated a demographic shift in their loyal, family-oriented market. They saw a need for a new "port-family" car: a luxury sedan built for drivers who have traditionally taken Volvo wagons to their hearts.

Powered by a 197-horsepower transversely mounted straight-six engine, the S80 is both quick off the mark and able to generate satisfying cruise speeds in T6 form, equipped with the optional 268-horsepower twin turbo engine, the S80 is just plain fast. The competition often little to challenge it.

Although the car bears slight physical resemblance to the steel Volvos of the past, it continues the Volvo tradition of safety innovation. Full-length inflatable curtains cushion and shield occupants' heads in side impacts, a whiplash protection system helps protect them at rear impacts, and new stability-enhancing systems can help a driver avoid an accident as the first place.

The Volvo S80 is a premium automobile that runs with the BMW 5-Series, Mercedes E-Class, Audi A6 and Lexus GS 300, and it does so at a surprisingly affordable price for a no-apologies, no-compromise luxury sedan.



2000 Volvo S80

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My Horoscope

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Over and Under Achievers

Leaks and geeks

Revealed, PM, Paul Martin to stay—but press corps must go!

◆ **Parliament Hill reporters:** Have they got a scoop for you? Jean Charest is staying. Paul Martin is quitting. Or the reverse. Or both are saying. Or both are leaving. Whatever.

◆ **Sales-Maurice riding residents:** Children constituents got \$8.5 million in grants—more than twice rural of all Alberta. Riding is now so nice, some Liberals say PM should live there full time.



Team Canada—Holger's Heroes' after coach Holger Giesch—reels and roars

◆ **Canada's soccer team:** Who needs hockey? Recent tourney was boresome new heroes' worldwide ranking to 61st from 85th. Bring on Brazil!

◆ **The Washington press corps:** Bush-Gore. Gore-Bush. Bush-Gore. With

vote still eight months away, enough with endless coverage. See y'all to September or so.

◆ **High-tech abooks:** Slumping. Say, maybe that badly dressed led next door really is just a geek.

Overview

Safety scores

Fewer than one in five NHL players wear a protective visor—mandatory in most other leagues. The reason most convincingly given for not wearing visors is that they affect vision and impede quick reaction. Some related statistics.

- Number of top 10 points leaders wearing visors, as of last week: **6** (Jaromir Jagr, Mark Recchi, Valeri Bure, Pavel Bure, Paul Kariya)
- Number of hockey eye injuries in Canada in past 23 years: **1,866**
- Number of those injuries that led to loss of sight in an eye: **258**
- Percentage of such injuries occurring to players not wearing protective visors: **98**

Michael Sauter

Weather Watch

Canada (too) Dry



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Overture

PASSAGES

Died: Calgary-based Canadian overnurse **Lara Sloan**, 30, lost a week-long fight for life after a traffic accident. Sloan, a five-time national champion, won 17 international medals and held the Canadian record for the 100-m freestyle. Her family donated her organs for transplant.

Died: Bush Second **Jainram**, 85, was a patriarch of a family known for its pioneering role in the Canadian cable TV industry. A passionate exponent of women's issues, she performed every elected role, including legislative chairwoman for the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario. Married for 63 years to **Edwin Jainram**, she was mother of five, grandmother of 19 and great grandmother of one. She died at home in London, Ont.

Awarded: Canadian journalist **Paul Watson**, 40, of the *Los Angeles Times*, received the *Gonny Tolk Award* for excellence in foreign reporting. Watson, who previously won a Pulitzer Prize, was cited for his reports from Kosovo, where he was the only Western reporter during a period of sustained violence and hardship. He previously worked for *The Toronto Star*.

Nominated: *Mechanix* reporter **Tom Fessell**, *Chris Wood* and *June O'Han* are finalists for investigative reporting in the magazine category of the annual awards of the Canadian Association of Journalists. Fessell and Wood were chosen for reporting on human trafficking, and O'Han for her report on commercial exploitation of the name of the late Hindu actor **Bulk Raju**. Winners will be announced in April.

Deceased: Former RCMP officer **Patrick Kelly's** bid for a new trial was rejected by Justice Minister **Anne McLellan**. Kelly was convicted in 1984 of killing his wife, **Jeanette**, by throwing her off a 17th-



floor balcony in Toronto. In 1996, lay witness **Dawn Tabor** accused marital rape, a charge that had seen him do so. But the Ontario Court of Appeal ruled 2 to 1 last May that her new testimony was not believable. McLellan said she is "satisfied Mr. Kelly's conviction has been thoroughly removed."

Died: **Karni Singh Mank**, 87, was a pioneer in immigration rights and integrating the Sikh community into Canadian society. Born in India, he came to Canada at age 8, and frequently encountered racism in early years. He helped lead a campaign for better status for immigrants in the 1950s. He died after a short illness.

Died: Montreal native **Arthur Caspeau**, 57, served as Canada's first ambassador for the environment and sustainable development in the 1980s and early 1990s under three Prime Ministers: **Brian Mulroney**, a former law associate. Caspeau was replaced by former Commons Speaker **John Fraser** when the Liberals took power in 1993. He died in Montreal.

Died: St. Albert, Alta.-based children's author **Maryn Godfrey**, 51, sold millions of books. A British-born former schoolteacher, he wrote his first book in 1981 on a date from a student, it was successful, he quit teaching five years later to write full time. His books often dealt with the complex relationships between adolescents and adults. He died of complications from liver disease.

Charged: Outcast Reform MP **Jake Hoopes**, 66, from Morden, Man., was charged with common assault in Manitoba in the wake of a September incident involving fellow MP **Indy Mak**. Makal-keles that during a caucus meeting in Winnipeg, Hoopes threatened to harm him, and made a physical gesture.

Retired: Miami Dolphins quarterback **Dan Marino**, 38, is leaving after 17 seasons. Although he never won a Super Bowl, Marino holds records for most touchdowns passing, passing yards and completions.

Over to You



James Cherry

Why I stay... for now

I never imagined I'd become a poster child for anything. But lately I've become one—because I wanted the "brain drain." My brush with media notoriety started with a profile in my local newspaper, the *Ottawa Citizen*, after I won the Governor General's Medal at Carleton University for my PhD work. In recent weeks, I've appeared both on national TV and, now, in nationally circulated print.

Why the fuss? Because I recently turned down an offer of \$105,000 (U.S.) a year to live in a terrific city, Boston, to work for one of the world's best-known corporations, IBM Corp. I chose to stay in a terrific city, Ottawa, for a much lower salary, working for a small start-up company, *Philab Services International*. Not everyone understands why.

When I started my PhD in 1992, I didn't anticipate that cellular phones (my thesis topic) would become so hot. Thanks to that, and because my thesis supervisor was well-respected and, conversely, I was in high demand when I finished in 1996, at age 28. Alongside the IBM offer, my Philab corporate offer in Canada was with *Philab*.

I opted for *Philab*—and to remain in Canada—for three reasons. First, my partner is in a university program here. If we went to the United States, her tuition fees would be much higher, thus reducing my salary advantage. And while *Philab's* offer was smaller up front, it offered work options that could prove lucrative if things go well. And having had a large portion of my postsecondary education paid for by government scholarships, could I really still Canadian taxpayer by immediately renouncing soon?

Many of Canada's best and brightest apparently have little problem going south—if the brain drain is as real as some reports suggest. I don't have a survey to back me up, but I personally know ag-

nificantly more people who intend than left. As *Philab*, we've managed to convince some Americans to move to frigid Ottawa. Things can go both ways.

Why do some Canadians choose to work in the United States? The money is usually better—it is unreasonable to go where you're compensated best! Much of the South has nicer weather (San Diego is gorgeous all year-round). Depending on what state you move to (Texas certainly, California perhaps not), you pay less tax than in Canada. On the downside, the San Francisco Bay area (the heart of high-tech) has some of the worst traffic and most exorbitant house prices in North America. The South lacks southern racism, and you are not concerned with the climate's dreaded "right to bear arms." And as my unscientific opinion, U.S. society feels less tolerant and more self-centered than that of Canada. Several people who have raised children there have worried me again: doing it myself.

I did a PhD because, ultimately, I want to teach at university. With Finance Minister **Paul Martin's** secure tax cuts, and my love of Canada, he enough to keep me here. Ask me today, and I lean towards saying yes: high-tech opportunities in industry and university are improving. But any partner might have a harder time. Perhaps when the graduates, she'll find the big, bad U.S. of A. much better for jobs. And convenience and proximity change. Maybe the tax advantage of the States will be too great. Maybe I'll have had enough of cold winters. Maybe we'll find a city whose raising a family doesn't seem so bad. I don't imagine the choice being easy. We'll see what the future brings.

James Cherry lives in Ottawa. Guest submissions may be sent to overcast@proton.ca or jb@cs.ualberta.ca (505) 556-7730. We cannot respond to all queries.



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Anthony Wilson-Smith

A writer to remember

One night in 1990, Artyom G. Borzovskiy in a Georgian-style restaurant in Moscow and brooded, in classic Russian style, about death. At the time, he was in his late 20s, and had confessions—and caresses—plenty of ways of meeting his own demise. As his country's most celebrated and controversial journalist of the day, Artyom had gone on repeated missions in war-torn Afghanistan with the *grenades*—the cowboy correspondents of the old Soviet Union. In Moscow, he endured heavy-handed suggestions that his gabbing was wrongdoing by senior officials might be bad for his health. On this night, a few friends—most of us foreigners based in Moscow—sat with him at a window table at Uspenskiy Restaurant, gazing across the river at Novodevichy Cemetery, where Nikita Khrushchev is buried. Artyom, seated in his flannel English, said “by the time Khrushchev died, you know, as much how his enemies tried, no one would forget him.” That, added Artyom, might be the most anyone could ask for.

Artyom tried to joke with no-doubt humor about how his last-of-its-kind flight in Moscow would likely be in a “Black Rose,” the term Soviet army vets used for the coffins that brought dead soldiers home. But the Afghan wars never did get him in their grasp; he did not those people reeling the merciless truth. His life ended earlier this month in a more sadly everyday fashion for Russia, a place where nothing works as it should: the small plane in which he was a passenger crashed after taking off from a Moscow airport. On the eve of election on May 26, sabotage was suspected; Artyom was publisher of the magazine *Souravoye Sebevo* (Top Secret), and had recently made more enemies. But in the end, the crash seems to have been just another case of badly made, malfunctioning Soviet-era equipment.

Some people regard journalism as a business, others as a calling; sometimes, the latter are the more trustworthy. Artyom was an exception. Ramped, casually dressed, baby-faced, he seemed former in high dudgeon about professional matters—bolstered by high spirits about his overall life. In the early 1990s, his television show *Vysklad* (Glance) was pulled by the government because his reports infuriated senior officials. His TV version of *Top Secret* was cancelled last year after probing possible Kremlin corruption. But he had other outlets: in addition to the magazine, he remained a special correspondent with CBS's *60 Minutes*. He wrote more than a dozen books drawing on his reporting in places like war-torn Nicaragua in the 1980s (he spoke fluent Spanish), to Afghanistan, on the time he served with the American army in Fort Bragg, Ga., in 1988. Artyom's English was so Americanized that many grates didn't believe he was from the Soviet Union; they thought he was pulling a prank.

The confusion was understandable. Artyom seemed at home everywhere. When he visited Kabul, the Afghan capital, rebellious locals used to regularly abduct and knife Soviet soldiers in broad daylight at the Chakkeri Street main market. But Artyom would loudly speak English as he strolled the streets, so everyone figured he couldn't be Russian, and let him alone. His reports for *Gosgiz* magazine under editor Vasily Kozlovich—the Ben Bradlee of his day—created a sensation: all 1.7 million copies would sell out within two hours of reaching newsstands. In his prison on the Afghan occupation, he detailed how freedom-of-the-press spent their years in drug-induced haze, while reporters got drunk nightly watching booting videos of *Apocalypse Now*. He was the first Soviet journalist to draw the painful comparison of this campaign with the *Americans* in Vietnam.

Artyom's father, Gennadiy, was a Brezhnev-era journalist/diplomat posted to the United Nations, an Artyom himself grew up in New York. (His wife, Victoria, was raised in similar circumstances.) That made the son part of the so-called *novorusskies*—and, for all its socialist sin, there may never have been a more class-conscious society than the Soviet Union. Artyom could have been a perfect Kremlin propagandist, like Vladimir Posner, the Soviet mouthpiece whose headline views seemed affirmed by his Moslem-accented delivery. Instead, Artyom's fondness for blowing the whistle on malfeasance among his father's peers infuriated them; that much more.

Like many Russians, Artyom felt deeply torn towards his homeland. He deplored about his people's fondness for authoritarian rule. He and his father had a loving, cordial relationship. Gennadiy worried about his headstrong son, and Artyom appeared sometimes resentful of his father (in part because of suggestions Gennadiy engaged in more dandified infomercials gathering with their journalists). But Artyom could be defensive when Westerners criticized too much. Once, we argued about the limitations of state-run journalism. “How popular would you be,” he responded, “if you went in Canada that communism is good and capitalism evil. Why are you surprised if we can't say the same here?”

We talked a couple of times in the past 10 years when he visited North America. His view of Russia's future swayed between enthusiasm and despair, but his passion stayed intact. In a 1998 essay for *Maclean's*, Artyom—who didn't often discuss religion—cited the famous line from the Gospel according to St. John: “In the beginning was the word.” And a word, Artyom concluded, “can also be a devil.” He lived his life by that code. Artyom is now buried in Novodevichy Cemetery. Neither friends nor enemies will forget him.

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On the Right Path



Vis medicatrix naturae (the healing power of nature) is not just a tenet of naturopathic medicine, it is the principle by which Canadian doctors of naturopathic medicine live, work and educate. And therein lies the philosophy behind this complementary approach to conventional medical health-care treatment: to educate and assist patients in taking responsibility for their own health.

At the Toronto-based Centennial College of Naturopathic Medicine (CCNM)—Canada's only recognized four-year, full-time program—prospective students are required to have at least three years of university study, including specific pre-requisite courses (The majority of entrants have a Bachelor of Science degree.) Once accepted, these future NDs will undergo more than 4,500 hours of classroom training and clinical experience that cover six modalities: clinical nutrition,

botanical (herbal) medicine, homeopathic medicine, physical medicine, acupuncture and oriental medicine, and lifestyle counselling. In their second and fourth years, students must write standardized Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examinations.

CCNM, which recently moved into an expanded, state-of-the-art facility to accommodate its burgeoning enrolment, is also home to the Robert Solad Naturopathic Clinic, where students train under the direction of licensed naturopathic doctors in the largest naturopathic outpatient clinic in the country. According to David Behrlich, CCNM president, "the program is choreographed to meet the exponential demand for licensed naturopathic physicians across Canada." This, along with the six satellite clinics throughout the Greater Toronto Area, helps the students prepare for what Behrlich says is "a profession whose time has come."

Bodies in Balance

"Through their training, NDs focus on the whole patient, not just the symptoms. This holistic approach is what makes naturopathic medicine unique. And, according to Iva Van Loon, ND, it is also why it appeals to an ever-growing number of individuals. "Women, in particular, find the natural source medicines and gentle, non-invasive treatments safe," says Van Loon, whose practice in British Columbia encompasses mainly women and children. "Our body systems are delicately balanced," she says, "and there are many factors that can upset the balance. A naturopathic doctor looks at the patient's overall lifestyle before zeroing in on the cause of the upset. A hormonal imbalance, for example, may have its roots in a psychological or nutritional issue that needs to be addressed first."

"Our health has much to do with what we eat," says Patricia Wales, ND, a



Calgary-based practitioner with more than 20 years' experience. "Hormonal health, for example, is dependent on our general overall health. Much of what our bodies require can be found in nutrients that have been used for centuries. When needed, naturopathic medicine introduces only natural substances to the body, so rarely do we see negative reactions to them."

The Right Fit

Currently, naturopathic medicine is regulated in four provinces (British Columbia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario), the process is well underway in Alberta (with laws expected to be passed within the next year) and legislation will be introduced in Nova Scotia later this year. "It is important to find a practitioner who can address your needs," says Cassie Lyon, coordinator of the Canadian Naturopathic Association (CNA). "While all qualified NDs graduate with the same

basic training, some have developed an additional practice focus in areas such as homeopathic or botanical medicine, nutrition, or acupuncture. We can help you find the ND that's right for you" (for more information about naturopathic medicine in Canada, or to be referred to a practitioner near you, call CNA's 24-hour message line at 1-877-628-1284).

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Canadian Aces over Kosovo

By Bruce Wallace

It has been a year since Canada's fighter pilots fought in the NATO air campaign. For the first time, they talk about the excitement, fear and frustration of a war in which they were not allowed to strike at 'the head of the snake.'



Faucher in the cockpit of a CF-18: There is war real

"C'MON, EVERYONE'S TOO TENSE,"

Lt.-Col. Sylvain Faucher remembers thinking as he walked to his CF-18 fighter jet on the tarmac at Aviano, Italy, to lead one of the first NATO bombing runs into Yugoslavia. Many of the ground-crew would not meet his eyes. Others reached out to shake his hand as he approached his plane. "This place is like a church," he thought. The final orders to the pilots last March 24 had been "Don't walk late," a warning to get to their planes on time so the carefully co-ordinated package of strikers and supporting fighters would take off on schedule. But once a technician strapped him into the CF-18's ejection seat, Faucher found himself with time to spare, a rare moment alone with his thoughts. "How am I going to recognize a SAM?" Faucher recalls wondering about the surface-to-air missiles in the Yugoslav arsenal. In 19 years flying fighter jets, Faucher, 42, from St-Roch-de-l'Achigan, Que., had never seen live anti-aircraft fire; now, he was anxious about what it would look like up close.

In the cockpit of another CF-18 on Aviano's congested runway, Maj. Alain Pelletier's mind drifted to thoughts of his wife watching the countdown to war on television back home in

Bagorville, Que. Because of a communications blackout, he hadn't been able to talk to her before his mission. He thought about his two children, and about the Serb missile operations awaiting him on the ground and wondered what was going through their heads. And he, too, tried to picture what anti-aircraft fire would look like if it would fill the skies with colourful traces as it did in the TV clips from the 1991 war with Iraq, or "look just like I'd seen in old movies."

It was twilight when Faucher and Pelletier, 34, roared off Aviano's runways in their jets, heading southeast over the Adriatic Sea. By the time they had refueled in radar-two hours later, the skies were inky black, and when they cut west into Yugoslav airspace, there was no marbling, the sparks of the anti-aircraft artillery known as Triple A. "Like a twinkling Christmas tree," Faucher recalls, thinking back on the dimly lights that crackled up from below. Then came the strike: missiles from the engine of a SAM, fired without radar guidance to damage its organs and capable of reaching far greater altitudes than Triple A. "No trouble seeing the SAMs," says Faucher. "Seeing them is the worst part." And on the radar: two MiG-29s, Yugoslav fighters just 130 km off their nose and coming at them fast. An American airborne surveillance plane immediately issued them "bruides."

Two Dutch F-16s paralleling the skies over the Kosovo capital of Pristina picked up the surveillance signal and intercepted the MiGs on the Canadian half. Pelletier and Faucher both saw the Dutch missiles swirling towards the Yugoslav planes, saw one MiG hit and the other pilot ram and fire. "I could hear the instructions to hit and knew the Dutch missiles were going past me," recalls Faucher. "You could see one spark in the sky and then what looked like a shooting star." Then, he says, "in when I knew what we were doing was far real."

The storm now swept clear of the enemy. Faucher and Pelletier located the airfield in Serbia that was their target. Centering the target in the greenish haze of their computerized imaging systems, the Canadians looked on and "piddled"—releasing their 500-lb. bombs and guiding them to the target with a laser beam. They were the first non-American NATO planes in hit targets inside Serbia. "Killing people does not go through your mind," says Faucher, who commanded the Canadian squadrons in Aviano during the five weeks of the war and flew five missions. "From the air, the human factor



Serbian police headquarters in Belgrade burns on April 5, 1999. NATO strikes hit Milosevic's capital—but not hard enough to immediately stop the ethnic cleansing.

doesn't mean what it would to an army guy. When you see a fighter plane, you don't see eyes. You see things—a building, a track, a bridge, a dam. It's all so technological.

"I had no Serbian in mind," he says of his thoughts as he went to war that first night. "I was shooting at a radar pole."

NO ONE REALLY KNOWS WHY Slobodan Milosevic ended his violent crackdown on the independence aspirations of Kosovo Albanians and their armed guerrilla movement, the Kosovo Liberation Army, last June. As long as the definition of victory is elusive, it can be argued this was a war won by airpower alone. No pilot died. The NATO alliance held together. Milosevic withdrew.

Fans for the safety of the Canadian pilots and their families in Canada mean none were allowed to be identified during the war, nor could their faces be shown on television. Now, proud of what they did and wishing to tell their stories, they spoke to *Maclean's* and pursued a killer picture of the late-20th-century mission when Canada went back to fight a war in Europe. There is a story of pride, reflection and some frustration. A year after the start of the 78-day campaign, many of the Canadian pilots and air command look back and wonder why they were sent out to hit the same targets over and over, or why NATO planes spent so much time trying to hunt and kill Serb tanks and troops in Kosovo rather than taking the fight to Milosevic in Belgrade.

HE HAD NEVER SEEN live anti-aircraft fire. He wondered how it would look up close.

Their opinions—and their stories—have never been widely told in a country that loves its peacekeepers but seems distinctly uncomfortable with the harder, nastier business of peacemaking.

THE POLITICIANS, AT LEAST, seemed to think the war would be a slam dunk, a quick and easy win. They wanted a demonstration of their resolve, to provide punctuation to the diplomacy aimed at stopping Belgrade's ethnic cleansing. American envoy Richard Holbrooke had warned Milosevic on the eve of the conflict that air strikes would be "swift, severe and sustained," and the prevailing belief inside NATO was that a night or two of bombing would be enough to ruin in the Serb forces terrorizing Albanians. "My God, we're really going to do this," Col. Dwight Davies remembers thinking the night before the first strike. Davies, 62, who comes from Moose Jaw, Sask., was in charge of the Canadian air contingent and counts himself among those whose "nervous gut feel" was that the war would be short. Canadian pilots not scheduled

to fly until the third night of combat were lacking furniture at Aviano, thinking they would miss their chance at the real thing. As Davies recalls: "The guys not scheduled to fly the first night were the most careful and flew over even."

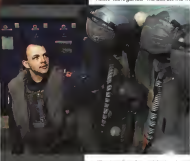
No one could have warned. During the 78 days the air campaign dragged on, 68 Canadian pilots would fly 678 sorties and drop 532 bombs. Most were guided with precision electronics, but the Canadians dropped 171 "dumb" bombs through the clouds as well, most aimed at bigger targets like airfields. In the end, Canadians flew roughly 10 per cent of NATO's action, and the air force remains intensely proud of how Canadian pilots were given responsibility for planning a large proportion of the "packages"—the strike force of anywhere up to 50 planes—that carried out wide-scale bombing runs. Half of the packages that included CF-18s were led by Canadian pilots.

The Canadians flew and fired under strict limitations. The pilots kept their CF-18s above the NATO-ordered floor of 4,500 m, which drastically reduced their risk of being shot down. Canadian F-16s lawyers also vetoed every target for its military relevance, and unarmoured pilots not to drop bombs where the potential for unarmoured civilian deaths—known by the infamous euphemism "collateral damage"—was high.

"The pilots would push and the lawyers would hold us back," says Maj. Brian Truvel, 34, who flew night-bombing runs in the last month of the war. Canadian lawyers, for example, vetoed plans to take out a Serb radio station that they did not believe had any military significance. On the other hand, Canadian pilots did get approval to strike the television station at Novi Sad, Serbia's second-largest city. A similar NATO decision in which pilots (not Canadians) knocked out Belgrade's TV towers, killing several journalists and support staff, remains one of the most controversial acts of the war.

Canada's fighter pilots have no doubt that those were exactly the kinds of targets they should have been hitting from the war. They share the view of U.S. Gen. Michael Short, the allied air force commander who has been an outspoken critic of how the war was fought, that airpower is best used "going after the head of the snake."

"I was in a good seat to see Gen. Short grabbing his teeth over the directions he was receiving," says Davies, who was part of the tactical planning meetings at air command



**'I have nothing
against the guy on
the other end.
He probably loves
to fly just like me.'**

—Maj. Alexis Pelletier, 34

headquarters in Vicenza, 60 km west of Venice. Short was so disillusioned by the political interference that he now refuses to even call it an air campaign, because "it is not a campaign in the sense that any professional would have carried it out." Instead, Short calls what happened over Yugoslavia a "random bombing of military targets."

Publicly, most Canadian pilots who flew into the Serb threat are reluctant to question the targets they were given or the missions they were asked to fly. "We're like a hockey team that only practices, and guys were just pretty happy to go out and do the real thing for a change," says Frawley. But among themselves they wonder why the war went on so long. They ask the same questions that Short posed: did we risk our lives and those of innocent civilians on the ground for targets that had no great military value? And why would the war persist, home against Milosevic in Belgrade from the air? "Sometimes, I don't think Mr. Milosevic is still here," Maj. Todd Ruffe remembers thinking as he dropped his load of explosives on the presidential palace in Belgrade's outskirts. That was May 31, and the bombs were among the last the Canadians would drop in the war.

SHORT HAD WANTED to open the campaign with a massive, lethal bombing of Belgrade, taking out the Serbs' air defenses, power grids, bridges and command centers. It was higher-risk strategy, sure, to meet greater resistance from Serb-built man-made shields of the air or defenses. In a pep talk to the assembled NATO pilots and crews at Aviano, Short had warned they might lose three to five planes a night ("Just, why'd he do that," muttered Canadian commander Fitcher, who had spent a lot of time trying to teach his pilots' crews by downplaying the risks).

But Short did not get to wage the war he wanted. In June, 1998, he had two American officers down at detailed plans for his strategy, but the document was shredded by Gen. Wesley Clark, NATO's supreme commander. Instead, Clark asked NATO planners in Belgium to devise an incremental bombing campaign that would be more palatable to the 16-nation 19 governments. Many NATO countries were jittery about attacking a country that did not appear to threaten any member of the ostensibly defensive alliance. And they worried that high casualty figures on either side of the conflict would undermine domestic support for the war. That was why Foreign Minister Lloyd Austin, like U.S. President Bill Clinton, ruled out ground troops from the start. Their

'It's sad that guys had to die. But they were the ones creating the problems down there.'

—Lt. Col. Don Davies, 36

strategy was based on the belief Milosevic would concede after a few waves of NATO jets.

Milosevic lost them. Rather than throwing his own forces into a fight he could not win, the Serb leader played for time. He constantly moved and hid his military assets, gambling that the longer the war lasted, the greater the political strains would become inside NATO. As a result, nothing became more important to NATO leaders than keeping the alliance together. "Our objective throughout the campaign was to show a consolidated NATO front," says Lt.-Gen. Raymond Henault, Canada's deputy chief of defense staff.

The more the use of airspace would be questioned, there the pilots looked at their first three-day set of orders, where there just 91 approved targets. With a few exceptions, almost all were

Canada's targets



THE PILOTS FELT THAT MILOSEVIC was not threatened by their careful campaign

south of the 46th parallel—in Kosovo, not Serbia proper. NATO pilots hit them all. The exposed blizzard of Triple A fire and SAMs never ceased. And the Serbs seldom looked their SAMs onto the NATO jets, which would have exposed them to return fire.

With NATO not pressing the fight to Belgrade and with Milosevic seemingly indifferent to the losses being inflicted on his marauding forces in Kosovo, the prospect of a short war quickly faded. "Obviously, if you're hitting 200 miles from Belgrade, Milosevic doesn't feel threatened at all," says Canadian pilot Pillitter. By Day 4, Davies had scowled. "Thank you, but" on the board at Aviano, and confusion with the choice of bombing sites—NATO was ordering its pilots to hit the

no-nonsense colonels, among it his office in Baginella, where he now commands the Canadian Forces' 3 Wing.

At the end of the first week of air strikes, Davies picked up the phone and called Henault in Ottawa. "I'm having difficulty continuing," Davies told his boss. "If we don't get new targets of value, I don't think I can allow Canadian forces to be employed." Henault told McDougall last week he never brought the issue up with NATO planners—"We trust NATO to pick the targets," he said—but assured Davies he could make the call on whether to fly or not. "You've got the hammer," he told his colonel. The hard decision was overruled when new targets were set.

Other complications emerged. One was the lousy Balkan spring weather: overcast days that made the precision-guided weapons useless. In another of his frequent calls to Henault, Davies asked for permission to change the Canadian rules and

allow pilots to drop "dumb" bombs through the clouds. Henault was back to him with an approval in 30 minutes. The Canadians also upgraded their weapons of choice from 500-lb bombs to 2,000-pounders, which did significantly more damage to targets.

But the biggest problem for NATO was political. Milosevic had responded to the bombing by unleashing death squads and herding tens of thousands of Kosovo Albanians into buses and trains, and driving them across the mountainous border into neighboring Balkan countries.

The images of so much mayhem and violence horrified Western politicians. They demanded Short and his successors do something to stop the ethnic cleansing. CF-18 pilot Pillitter was the Canadian operations officer and remembers a meeting when Short said, "I'm under pressure here. I need to show down the visibility of the Serb forces on the ground."

The pilots and planners were to work on April 4, a Sunday afternoon, starting after 6 p.m. Short lowered the altitude floor to 3,000 m so planes could better spot small targets like tanks and Serb paramilitary forces. Pilots refer to this phase of the war as "tank plinking," and they say it with disdain. Targets were terribly hard to find. It was easy for the Serbs to park a tank inside small buildings, and tanks could easily disappear into the woods. "It was a horrible mission and we hated it," says Ruffe.

Davies didn't like it either. He kept the CF-18s above 4,500 m and did not authorize them to leave targets, although the Canadians did release a couple of Serb artillery pieces during the stage of the war. "Without any troops of its own on the ground, NATO could not have Serb forces out of fielding." It is not that hard to avoid being bombed," says Ruffe. 35, from



Fitcher at home with son David, 13, and daughter Emily, 16, wife Andre (background) with son Thierry, 13; ordinary guys

same targets again and again—quickly set it. "Forget the myth of the crooked commander sending men off to die," says Davies. "You do not sleep well when you're sending people into harm's way."

The colonel was hobnobbed by a broken leg during the war, suffered after slipping on an icy Italian hill. But he will down 100 km from Vicenza to Aviano on the first two nights of the war to be at the base when the Canadians returned. Now, by the end of the first week with the Canadians being ordered to repeatedly attack the same targets, Davies came within a day of telling Short the Canadians would not fly any more missions. "The value-added of destroying the last outcome on the last hour was so low from a tactical point of view that it became questionable accepting the risk for the pilots to go do it," says

Tosser (left), Pelletier, Fouchier: a sense of relief that NATO prevailed

By late April, Short received permission to take the fight deeper into Serbia in order to increase the pressure on Milosevic directly. The number of sorties increased to almost 1,000 a day, and Ottawa sent another six CF-18s to Aviano to bring the total number to 18. Hensault says the planes were "absolutely" needed to fulfil a NATO request for more airpower. Not everyone in Aviano, where the base was already crisscrossed with planes, was convinced. "When in Italy do you want me to put your six planes?" the hurried American colonel in charge at Aviano asked Pelletier.

But the Canadians were also hitting the new targets deep inside Serbia, flying in over Bosnia and Hungary instead of Kosovo. "Coming in from the north, all of a sudden you'd fly into total darkness," recalls Frawley of the night missions. "It reminded me of movies about the London Blitz. It would be all black, and then you'd see explosions in the distance. And you'd know our planes were there even though you couldn't see them."

The Canadians did not drop any bombs in the last 10 days of the war. Diplomacy had resumed, and mission after mission was scrubbed. The pilots called their situation Groundhog Day, after the movie in which Bill Murray's character is doomed to repeat the same day over and over again. Balle was at home on leave when Milosevic called it quits on June 10, and thought, "Thank God, I don't have to go back." But he also felt a sense of relief that NATO had prevailed. "I certainly thought for a second that we weren't going to win this thing," he says.

Many of the Canadians who flew over Kosovo have since left the military, lured away by the better pay at commercial airlines and the appeal of living somewhere other than the out-of-the-way bases at Cold Lake or Baginville. "The campaign came along at just the right time for us," says Balle. "The technology in the CF-18 was not completely obsolete, and we had pilots nearing the end of their careers who had trained in the days when budgets allowed us to fly more hours." But to a man, the Canadians say their training prepared them perfectly for the Balkan situation. "Sure we need to make a serious investment in our pilots and planes," says Davies. "But our guys were very good at their jobs. Canadian should be terribly proud of them."

Tosser, for one, says he's proud of what he and his fellow pilots did last year. He never expected big parades or hero treatment upon his return. "At the time, I was thinking about my accuracy and was happy that people didn't know who we were. Behind him at Baginville, a CF-18 blazes into the sky, a Kosovo veteran taking off with a little extra thrust and a deeper climb to mark his last fight before leaving the air force. "But someday, maybe in 10, 20 years when it settles down over them, I'd like to go back, see the targets I hit," says Tosser softly. "Go back with my family," he adds, "just like one of those vets from the Second World War." ■

Cold Lake, Alta. "If we had Canadian forces on the ground and had to support them, absolutely well fly lower." Without that, the Canadian mission orders were to keep the rule low. "We knew whatever bombs we fired would be a drag on the bucket," says Fouchier. "So we said: put a priority on your survival and make sure you don't kill any innocent people on the ground."

To Short, it was (inevitable) NATO would drop a "bad bomb." On April 14, an American pilot flying over Kosovo mistook a tractor for a tank, and hit a column of refugees. The wreckage was terrible: 75 dead and another 26 wounded. For the Canadian pilots, it confirmed the need for caution. "There was so much pressure to be precise," says Pelletier. "We asked ourselves: do you want to be the guy on TV, your face blacked out, just your voice saying, 'I didn't mean to kill those civilians?'"

IN A REPORT RELEASED last month, New York City-based Human Rights Watch put the number of civilians killed in the air war at 500. The Canadians say they made a clear distinction between the acceptability of killing civilians and killing combatants. "It's sad that guys had to die," says pilot Lt-Col Yves Tosser, 36. "But they were the ones creating problems down there." The pilots watched the horrific images

THE CANADIANS WERE PROUD of what they did in supporting the NATO cause

of the refugee crisis on CNN from their mountainside hotels outside Aviano, and though Tosser admits he might have cursed the Serbs as "bastards" a few times, he says he never felt anything as wrong as hatred. Pelletier even expresses some sympathy for the enemy. "There's nothing against the guy on the other end," he says. "He probably loves his airplane and loves to fly just like me." But the pilots agree they had accorded themselves to the killing long before they got to Aviano. "If a guy can't live with himself, he shouldn't be here," says Frawley. "Because our job is to blow things up."

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MANOSOVO REFUGEES have decided to stay

Choosing Canada

By Tom Fossell

They fled any way they could, on foot, on rafts and by horseback. By the time their routes from the bordering and "ethnic cleansing" of Kosovo had ended, nearly one million Albanians living in the Serbian province had fled to refugee camps in neighboring Macedonia and Albania. A year has passed since their tragic journey began. Most of those refugees would spend months in camps before being airlifted to countries around the world. Nearly 7,500 would come to Canada during the Kosovo crisis—and, so far, only 1,900 have chosen to return. The rest are already rebuilding their lives, newly all struggling to get by. In interviews with Maclean's, three refugee families say that while they have not ruled out going home, the past year's hardships will be worth it if they can achieve one goal: a peaceful and prosperous life for their children in Canada.

SADNESS CREEPS INTO NITA GASHI'S brown eyes as she glances at the faded colour photo hanging on a bare wall in her tiny apartment in London, Ont. "It's upsetting," says the dark-haired 22-year-old, "it's all we brought with us." The grim in of a two-story house belonging to her family in the central Kosovo city of Pristina. Nita and her husband, Maje's lives were shattered last March 27 when Serbian militiamen kicked in the door of their home and

told them to leave within five minutes or be shot. They spent the night outside in the rain and the next day, along with her parents, were ordered onto a train in gaspains and eventually shipped to a refugee camp in neighboring Macedonia.

Like so many ethnic Albanians who fled Kosovo for Canada, the Gashis are haunted by memories of happier days before the war. While the passage of time has healed some of their emotional scars, they are often overcome with despair. "My mother, Nehle, has throat cancer and does not want to die here," says Nita. "She cries. She wants to die at home." They would like to fulfil her last wish, but the Gashis do not have the money to send Nita's 45-year-old mother home, and she will soon die in a land that has barely come to know.

Two years ago, Nita expected her life to take a very different course. Her husband, Maje, now 23, had been studying economics at university, and she had hoped to become an elementary-school teacher. Those ambitions vanished as the couple huddled outside on that fateful night. Though deeply scared by the ordeal, the Gashis are slowly beginning to turn their lives around.

The year began optimistically when Nita gave birth to a baby daughter, Elza. "She is a Canadian," Nita says proudly of the three-month-old sleeping peacefully in her cot. In an effort to keep the family together, Nita and her parents each found one-bedroom apartments in the same three-story apartment building in London's north

Maje Gashi with his Canadian-born daughter Elza, held by wife Nita. "I love Canada. The people are very kind. I will stay."

PHOTO BY MICHAEL P. HARRIS

end, where they chose to relocate to join Maje's brother, who immigrated nine years ago.

Maje has yet to find work, but they manage to live on the \$1,050 they receive from Ottawa each month. The money, which all the Kosovo refugees receive, is based on provincial welfare rates and will continue until the fall of 2001. And as he cleaned the interior of a 1989 Mazda sedan that his brother, an unemployed factory worker, gave him, Maje seemed ready to start life over in Canada. "I would like to go back to university," he says in a voice that still betrays uncertainty. Nita, however, has no doubts about the future. "I love Canada," she says. "The people are very kind. I will stay here."



'I lost my store, my house — everything. I think I can forgive for this, but for people who lost family, it is hard to forgive.'

—Nesredin Ballaca with his wife, Hasbena, and their three children

SEVEN-YEAR-OLD ERMIRA BALLACA bounces off the faded yellow couch in her parents' two-bedroom apartment in Sudslovakia and rises to the phone. "My Dad's here, I will get him," the first-grader tells the caller in perfect English, before handing the phone to her father, Nesredin, who cannot help but smile. After all, just a year ago when they fled Kosovo, Ermira could not speak a word of the language.

At Ermira rushes off to play with her sisters, Drenise, 5, and brother, Endri, 3, Nesredin pats Ermira's head for his two fellow refugee brothers sitting at the kitchen table. Once again, their conversation quickly reaches the same res-

making a decision on whether to go," says Nesredin. "If they do not say I stay not stay alone."

Until they make a decision, like hundreds of their fellow Kosovo refugees, the Ballacas are struggling to find work. They hope eventually to enroll in a local community college in a course that will lead to a job. While Ermira would like to become a hairdresser, Nesredin is not sure when he will do. At the same time, their children are happy in school and the family regularly works at a local mosque. In the end, the presence of a strong Muslim community in Sudslovakia could be the determining factor that convinces

the brother to say. "This is important," says Nedžadudin, "because we are religious."

Even if he returns, Nedžadudin still finds it difficult to imagine ever again living with the Serbs. "I lost my state, my house—everything," says Nedžadudin. "I think I can forgive for this, but for people who lost family—it is hard to forgive."



Melina Hoxha baking in her new home in Lethbridge, Albc., with her daughter, Blerina. "We have nothing left to go back to, it's all gone."

BLERINA HOXHA'S FRIENDS were plucked from refugee camps and scattered across the globe. Before they were driven out, the willowy blond 19-year-old would often gather in the evening with her friends in a café in their home village near Pristina. Hoxha had just graduated as a hairdresser, and the conversations over tea would often turn to careers and marriage. But her future suddenly turned bleak when she was forced to flee with her family. "I miss my friends so much," says Hoxha, who now lives in Lethbridge, Albc. "But I don't know where any of them are."

Despite not having any young friends in her new home, Blerina still seems happy as she gathers with her parents in the kitchen of their street two-story home for a supper of pin boud stuffed with ground beef and onions. She chuckles as her father, Reshep, 46, a former factory worker, tries to speak in English. Despite his difficulty, he manages to pronounce a clear "no" to any suggestion that the family might return to Kosovo. And Blerina quickly comes to his rescue with an explanation. "We have nothing left to go back to," she says, "it's all gone."

To help the family start over in Canada, Reshep and his wife, Milefin, 43, are studying English. And their 14-year-old son Geni is enrolled in public school. (Another son is 22 and studying engineering in Albania.) "Job, yes," says Reshep, looking forward to the day when he can start working again. For Blerina, a career is also back on her mind. "I need to get my papers for hairdressing," she says. "I will get a job."

Blerina is underlined by the spring blizzard that blanketed her new home last week. "We have snow in Kosovo," she laughs. "I don't mind." Like most of the refugees, she has been struck by the kindness Canadians have shown towards her family. "The people are so nice," Blerina says. "I want to stay." ■

INDICTED, but still president

ONE YEAR AFTER NATO bombs began falling on Kosovo, a group of young Serbian Canadians continue to wage a peaceful war of their own. From a small Toronto office, they operate the Centre for Peace in the Balkans Web site that carries articles that often director Dan Dostanic says tell the "truth" about events in their devastated homeland. The centre is also helping on antigovernment protests in Toronto and Ottawa on March 24, when Dostanic expects more than 10,000 people to join with thousands more around the world to mark the first anniversary of the war. While most Serbs denounce the United States for leading last year's bombing campaign, many also believe Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic is responsible for much of the destruction. "Milosevic is the guarantor of Serbian deficits," says Dostanic. "He signed away Kosovo to a foreign power."

Following the bombing, the collapse of Milosevic's regime seemed imminent. Yet the Serbian strangman remains firmly in control. The opposition is divided even as elections are scheduled for October. Even now, Milosevic is doing everything he can to ensure victory, including—according to critics—trying to assassinate a leading opposition politician. Because Milosevic, 58, has been indicted by the UN War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague for genocide committed in Kosovo, he is expected to grow more desperate as the vote nears. "If the opposition wins, he will be sent to The Hague," says Gato Kramacic, a law professor at Belgrade University. "He has nowhere to go."

Dostanic fears Milosevic may attempt to hold on to power by triggering another war in an appeal to Serb nationalists. The Serb-controlled Yugoslav Second Army is already threatening Montenegro, which makes up the Yugoslav alliance with Serbia, but is now seeking to independence from Serbia, which it sees as a renegade state. Canadian Serbs, however, fear a war in Montenegro would result in the loss of even more territory, while leaving Milosevic in his palace to rule over what remains of Serbia.

Ron Fennell with
Gato Kramacic in Belgrade

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And Now For The Real Fight

Chrétien stands his ground, but the Martiforces feel their biological clocks ticking

Bruce Wallace

in Ottawa



There had to be a better way for Paul Martin to quell the yawns in that band of Liberal supporters who can't wait for him to become top dog in the pound. The 15 or so Liberal MPs assembled at a meeting at a Toronto airport hotel by Martin aides on March 10 were reportedly dozzled by reports the finance minister was tiring of waiting for Jean Chrétien to call in a day, and might quit federal politics to head the International Monetary Fund. Perhaps the MPs were unaware of the long-standing tradition that the IMF is headed by a European. But if the aim was to scotch rumour that Martin was considering a career change, his advisers should have found a better way to convey the message. They could have talked the MPs down over the phone. Or upped the word by e-mail.

One thing is certain: when you convene a secret meeting of politicians and backroom boys, it won't remain secret for long—especially when it takes place a week before a Liberal party convention. Politics is a gossipy business. Put two politicians in a room and at least one is likely to leak. Pull 15 together and it becomes a chat room.

And so the meeting became a bomb that went off in the laps of the Martin leadership team, in conversation temporarily rocking the normally unflappable finance minister. His supporters acknowledge they discussed polling that showed Martin would fare better than Chrétien in the next general election. But they also insist they turned Martin's backers on caucus to keep their impatience under wraps. They did not want to appear to be organizing a punch in the nose-up to last week's bicentennial party convention.

So why then did a few of the MPs promptly

reach out, call reporters and let it be known they thought it was time for Chrétien to go? Some were known critics of the Prime Minister—like Diane Marleau, still bitter over being booted from the cabinet last August. And former caucus chairman Joe Fontana, a prominent Martin hater, who ventured to speculate that "the Prime Minister has done a fantastic job thus far and maybe he should consider stepping down." But other unhappy voices included Hamilton MP Scott Korman, hardly your blabbering backbencher, and a handful of long-serving party organizers from across the country. They coughed their own opinions behind the veil that their constituents and party leaders were pressing for a leadership change.

Chrétien easily deflected these swipes at his leadership, of course. He knows a thing or two about how hard it is to overthrow a sitting party leader, having tried and failed himself when John Turner had the Liberal helm. The Prime Minister summoned representatives from a few select newspaper outlets into his office for interviews last week legitimizing *The Globe and Mail*, which had just commissioned a poll showing 60 per cent of Canadians think the PM should serve and made it clear he will lead the party into the next election. "I'm a young man in good health," said the 66-year-old Chrétien. In a 57-minute address to delegates on Friday night, he added, "The first two mandates were not easy. Now the sun is shining again. And it's why I want to run in the next election. The job is not finished." Ninety-one per cent of delegates had endorsed his leadership at the last Liberal convention, the Prime Minister reminded everyone. He stressed the fact that the mandate was given closer to the last election than the next one, and long before anyone had ever heard of the human resources department's troubling spending spree.

Not so wily. There were plenty of Liberals who rushed to their leader's side—especially



in a coronation week—a Thatcherian guard of the loyal and the self-censored. The latter element includes just about every Liberal who thinks they should succeed Chrétien one day, but needs more time to rebuild the pacific and organization to challenge Martin. Hezekiah Miriam Allan Rock, busy pulling together his own leadership team, said he was a "strong supporter of the PM. He's one of the reasons I got into public life. I'm glad he's staying."

Piercy Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin, another Liberal with deep roots of living at 24 Sussex Drive, happily jumped at the chance to challenge Martin for leadership. "The unity of the Liberal Party of Canada is central to the political health of our nation," he wrote in an opinion piece he quickly penned for *The Globe and Mail*. Never mind that Tobin had been in Ottawa a month before, bashing the Chrétien government for being out of touch on health care. Tobin now cited Chrétien's 1997 election win and the endorsement of the last Liberal convention as all the reasons the Prime Minister needed to stay on. It was incredible, Tobin wrote, that a handful of MPs would "challenge this democratic process." If Tobin is read correctly, democracy under his prime ministership will be defined as mere obedience.

All of that announced on one of the wildest weeks inside the Liberal party since, well, since Turner was here. To those Canadians who have only a passing interest in whether Martin is Chrétien or anyone else leads the Liberals, it was a bizarre scene: a governing party, halving through its second majority and facing what is characteristically described as a confused opposition, scuffling with itself. There is no grand ideological divide among Liberals. So what that the polls say Chrétien should quit while he's ahead; they also say Canadians approve him never before of the job he's doing. The explanation for the party's (re)lighting is surprisingly simple and hardly lefty: Martin has no interest in hanging around until Chrétien finally decides he wants to play golf full time—despite the finance minister's continued insistence last week that he will not again even if the PM says. And those Liberals who have not their careers and ambitions to Martin's come: have no way to force Chrétien out other than by prodding a showdown.

The Martin focus has left other biological clocks ticking. They are also starting to take the Prime Minister at his word that he's staying. A year ago, Chrétien was given to making open comments around his office about the inevitability of Martin's succession. "When Martin is PM, he'll find all his old business deals will come back to haunt him," Chrétien would tell his associates. Or "When Martin PM, he'll find he can't keep all his Toronto Indian MPs happy." But since last fall,



A show of unity as Chrétien declares: 'I want to run. The job is not finished.'

Martin on Parliament Hill: job offer lapsed—but not the one he really wants

the Prime Minister's tone has changed. He is now given to teasing about how Canadians are comfortable with him. "Like an old shoe," he'll say. And he has now struck a convincing pose as possible that he thinks Canadians will be wanting his sensible style for another four years.

What future Martin chooses for himself under that scenario is anyone's guess. He certainly could not have been happy watching the rather undignified clips of himself on television, lost for words to explain the behaviour of his supporters, accepting away from the microphones and cameras like Mack Jagger firing another written warning a poverty suit.

But Chrétien, 59, has to be shaken by what transpired. He may have turned down the disgruntled MPs, but it is still to say he has caused displeasure to openly expressed. Once the genie is out, it is difficult to stuff it away again, as leaders from just Clark to Margaret Thatcher have learned to their distress.

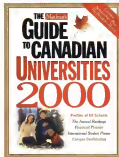
Chrétien can counter some of that unrest if he can come up with clear reasons for wanting to stay. It's not enough just to say he loves the job and he's done it well. Or that he's persuaded his own key backers he would run again and they have made their career choices accordingly. None of that will carry much weight with ordinary Canadians, who are far more interested in what Chrétien plans to do for them if he's granted a third mandate. The Prime Minister seems to be sensing that need himself. But he will have to do better than the obvious bromides about leading the country into the New Economy.

In the end, no matter what votes he has made, Chrétien will probably have his ultimate decision whether to run on a more hard-headed assessment of his chances. Late last month, he told golfing companions to watch his friend Roy Romanow. The Saskatchewan premier was going to win a big majority, Romanow predicted. "When Romanow was re-elected with just a slim minority, Chrétien got the news while travelling in Asia. 'I'll never let that happen to me,'" he told his colleagues. He has no interest in the so-called fun of running a minority government. Jean Chrétien wants to go out a winner. ■

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Canada

The Black Hole of Election Money

By John Geddes

When it comes to money's place in politics, Canadians are strangely sanguine by international standards. Europe has just been rocked by a major party fund-raising scandal in Germany, where politics was previously thought to be, by and large, clean. So has Israel. In the United States, John McCain bid for the Republican presidential nomination, went down in flames, but his quest to purify campaign financing pushed that issue to the forefront. Yet in Canada, the way politicians raise money attracts so little notice that a new Canada Elections Act has quietly reached the Senate—after passing in the House of Commons earlier this month—with barely a peep over its failure to enact political finance reforms urged by both a royal commission and the country's chief electoral officer. "Why so little fuss? It's ungrazed in Canada," says Aaron Freeman, author of a new book on money in Canadian politics, "but if you're talking about dirty politics, you must be talking about the U.S."

But that sense of superiority may be eroding. The continued upsurge over the mismanagement of job grants doled out by the human resources development department has focused attention in rarely before on the possibility of government largesse being linked to campaign spending. Consider Prime Minister Jean Charest's Saint-Maurice riding: The Reform party calculates that one-third of the donations to his re-election fund in 1997 came from companies and individuals who benefited from federal grants and contracts. Of course, the mere fact that many Charest supporters also do business with Ottawa is not evidence of malfeasance. But

the overlap at issue bolsters the proposition that the new act should open the books of riding associations. It doesn't. "The so-called black hole of constituency financing is one area that definitely stands in need of reform," declares former Conservative MP Patrick Boyer, a lawyer who has written extensively on the subject of election laws.

Boyer's "black hole" reference goes back to the 1992 Royal Commission on Electoral Reform and Party Financing,

In the smoke-filled world of political financing, local riding associations can be a law unto themselves

which legitimized the way riding associations are allowed to raise no-account funds, mostly in secret. Since 1974, when the foundations of the current rules were laid, federal parties have had to reveal once a year who gave them money and how much they gave. But the constituency associations of local MPs have always operated largely beyond the law's reach.

Only for the five brief weeks of an election campaign must they disclose donations, which is how details of Charest's campaign backers came to light. During the long years between elections, riding associations raise, spend and bank money almost entirely free of outside scrutiny.

Most party operators like it that way. But some are uneasy. Even Liberal Senator Dan Hays, the veteran Calgary fund-raiser in charge of steering the new elections bill through the upper chamber, would prefer to see constituency finances opened up to public scrutiny. "In my view, it is a very good bill the way it is," he cautiously told *Maclean's*. "But my own preference—speaking here as a political activist, not as a parliamentarian—would be for greater disclosure at the riding level." His view is hardly novel: the 1992 royal commission, chaired by Montreal businessman Pierre Lortie, wanted that failing to open up riding finances would ultimately "undermine public confidence" in Canadian electoral democracy.

Insiders like Hays know that riding finances are much more than a fringe issue. The 1,672 candidates who scraped for parliamentary seats in the 1997 election spent \$39.2 million—more than the \$34.9 million the parties spent. And while the parties had to account for every dollar over \$100 (a threshold that will rise to \$250 under the new act), separate disclosure by candidates was often less complex. The main gap, riding associations commonly make big contributions to their candidates, but the original sources of that money usually remain a mystery. Take the case of industry minister John Manley: He disclosed the identities of individuals and of companies who contributed \$10,150 and \$15,800, respectively, towards his 1997 re-election run. But Manley's biggest backer was his Ontario South Liberal Riding Association, which contributed a whopping \$78,664—and the source of that is unknown.

Freeman labels constituency finances "Josephine number 1." But it is far from his only target in *Gobling on Money and Influence in Canadian Politics*, scheduled to be published by McClelland & Stewart next month. He says the second major gap in the law is its failure to regulate leadership races. Parties

are free to set whatever spending rules they like for choosing leaders. And enforcement of even these self-imposed guidelines has been uneven. The Conservative party set a spending limit of \$900,000 for candidates in its 1993 leadership race, but the main contenders, Kim Campbell and Jean Charest, reportedly spent far more—with impunity. "The problem with voluntary rules," Freeman says, "is that the parties police them and the public have an interest in not discovering any irregularities." What's more, leadership candidates often funded donations through their parties or local riding associations in order to issue tax receipts. That means taxpayers are underwriting internal party processes—which Boyer argues should not be allowed until leadership contests are brought under public-disclosure rules.

What does Bill C-2 do?

While the government ignored some big issues in political financing, the *Canada Elections Act*, tabled in the House last October and now awaiting final passage in the Senate, is touted as a major reform package. Among its main provisions:

- Interest groups will be limited to spending \$150,000 during elections, and no more than \$3,000 supporting or opposing a particular candidate.
- Parties will have to produce more detailed financial reports, including, for the first time, a statement on revenue and spending of trust funds.
- Parties and candidates will have to disclose not just the names of donors who gave more than \$250, but also addresses—key to identifying individual contributors.

It is more than just leadership spending, however, that causes eyebrows. Everything from Ontario Premier Mike Harris' golf club membership (paid for along with other thousands of dollars of personal expenses by his riding association over a 15-year period) to Reform Leader Preston Manning's huge Bow suit (underbilled by a special Reform party fund), has been scrutinized by partisan and political opponents alike as a dubious use of tax-recognized donations. And Freeman says his book will show that Canada's mismanagement of political contributions, combined with partial reimbursement of party election expenses, makes public support for politics in Canada much more generous than in the United States. "Public subsidies make up about a third of the revenues of the parties," he estimates. "These are not private entities like any other—they are taxpayer subsidised."

Chief electoral officer Jean-Pierre Kingsley, the bureaucrat who oversees federal elections, has argued for years that

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financing roles should be extended to both leadership races and constituency associations. Still, Kinsley praises the new act's thrust in other areas—such as imposing a \$150,000 limit on election advertising by interest groups other than the registered parties. But when he appeared before a House committee studying the bill last fall, he also posed the MPs—to no avail—to consider extending the same rules to fund-raising by local ridings. He is expected to repeat that message when a Senate committee examines the bill later this month, before its final passage into law. "Eventually, we need a regime where not one penny moves into the political arena without it being made known to the Canadian public," Kinsley told *Maclean's*. "We're not there yet."

Not even close, Freeman contends. And the lack of any sense of urgency on the issue, he says, can be traced to the prevailing belief that Canada has avoided U.S.-style elections. But does money's influence in politics change so dramatically at the 49th parallel? Party fund-raising in the two countries—considering that the U.S. population is about 10 times Canada's—is closer than many might assume. President Bill Clinton's Democrats raised \$345.5 million (U.S.) in the two-year cycle culminating in the 1996 presidential election, while Clinton's Liberals made \$31.6 million in 1996 and 1997, the year of Canada's last general election. *Assessing* the same political backing for the buck in each country, regardless of the ridings of the candidates, the two fund-raising machines seem a remarkable likeness.

With so much cash sloshing around Canadian politics, the stakes surrounding the new elections act should be much higher, Freeman argues. "Any bill that doesn't show us the money should be scrapped." But as the act cruises towards clearing its final hurdles in the Senate, it seems that for Canadian rooms much of this money is still going to remain out of sight—and out of reach. ■



Rescuers remove bodies from a snowy Quebec field. (clockwise from left) three of the victims, Vincent Chastin, 4; Louise Fleurette-Drogin, 5; Karl Xatily-Drogin, 5; on a day-care outing for maple sugar.



They lay in the snow 'like angels'

A collective grieving follows a horrific crash

It was the dull drone of the van's horn that first alerted Josée Deslauriers to the horrific accident across the road from her small business selling windows. Her husband, Réjean Lambert, rushed out of their store in tiny St-Jean-Baptiste-de-Nacore, Que., to find children's bodies strewn about in the snow-covered field. "I wasn't able to go close," recalled Deslauriers. "I was watching from here and my legs were shaking." The children, a policeman said later, were lying there "like little angels."

Only minutes earlier, the children had left for an outing to a sugar shack. At the wheel of the minivan was Jeanne Auger, the owner of a local day care in the village about halfway between Montreal and Quebec City. But as she drove up an incline on the rural road, Auger skidded, perhaps on ice, into the oncoming lane hitting another van. Her vehicle crashed through a guardrail and the impact threw eight children from the van and took a horned dove on a small company and a province all too familiar with roadside carnage.

Seven children were killed—four girls and three boys between the ages of 2 and

5. Four died on impact. At week's end, a four-year-old boy was clinging to life in a hospital in nearby Trois-Rivières. Auger and two others survived; one of the dead was her five-year-old son, Samuel. The driver of the other van, Wayne Knebel, 43, says it happened as quickly he didn't have time to avoid the collision. "I saw the woman at the last second," said an emotional Knebel, in hospital himself. "I didn't see any children, that's why it was a shock to see children everywhere in the field."

Among the horrific images of the crash, one promises no longer police found only a single car seat, the only one in the van. That immediately raised questions about whether all the children were safely buckled up. And why, residents wondered, were 10 children in the Ford Windstar van, which contains only seven seat-belts? Quebec's highway safety law is clear, vehicles cannot carry more passengers than their seat-belts, and kids under 5 have to be in child seats or boosters. Day-care regulations also restrict a single caregiver to look after no more than six children over the age of 2

The accident left people reeling in the small agricultural community of 3,000. "It's horrible," said Sylvie Allard, who has two small children. "I can tell you that we hugged them very tight yesterday." As word spread, some frightened parents furiously wondered which of the two local day care was involved. Mayor Marcel Tremblay heard about the accident during a meeting in Quebec City with government officials and thought immediately of his own three-year-old daughter. He recalled "10 to 15 minutes of incredible anguish" before learning it wasn't his daughter's day care that was involved.

Terrible and scolders have become an all-too-familiar tragedy in Quebec in recent years. On Thanksgiving Day in 1997, 44 people—all but one of them from the town of St-Bernard-de-Beauce—died when their bus veered off the road and plunged down a ravine. Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard immediately ordered an inquiry into Thursday's accident. A provincial coroner is to begin an investigation and counselling services were arranged for the victims' families. But asked what people were telling him, Tremblay replied simply: "People aren't talking. The only thing they are doing is crying."

Brenda Beaudet is
St-Jean-Baptiste-de-Nacore



Hockey fans lament a fallen Leaf

Was it simply an occupational hazard or yet another example of avoidable violence in hockey? Whatever the answer, last week, Bryan Berard, the Toronto Maple Leafs' flashy defenceman, was clapping as fans hoped that doctors might save the sight in his right eye—until, at 23, his promising hockey career.



Stunned fan; Berard (left) shows hopes that the sight in his eye may be saved

The devastating injury occurred during a March 11 game against Ottawa, when Senators forward Marian Hossa took a wild swing at the puck in midair and hit Berard in the eye with his stick. Berard immediately dropped to his knees, blood poured from the wound and pooled on the Coast Centre ice. Watching the game on television from their home in Woodstock, R.L. Berard's parents were horrified. "There was so much blood," said his mother, Pam. "All I could say was, 'Oh my God. Oh my God.'"

Last night, surgeons at Ottawa Civic Hospital worked feverishly to stitch up a two-centimetre cut that ran from Berard's corner to the back of his eye. Tom revealed that his eye has been badly damaged. But by far the worst news was that the light-sensitive retina had been torn and detached from the back wall of the eye. On Monday, an air ambulance flew Berard to Toronto, where some physicians and retina specialists Dr. Rob Devroye conducted further examinations. At a news conference, Devroye said that Berard was able to move some light, but there was still too much swelling and blood inside the eye cavity to take full measure of the damage.

When quizzed by reporters to say whether the talented blueliner would

ever see well enough to play again, Devroye said it would be "meaningless" to offer an opinion now. He would know more after surgery this week. And, he added, it could take a year before the final verdict would be in. Devroye was unequivocal about one aspect of the tragedy: it wouldn't have happened if Berard had been wearing a full protective visor—not mandatory in the National Hockey League. "It's the easiest question in the world," he said. "Everyone should wear a full visor period."

Berard's devastating injury is sure to rekindle the visor debate, which flares up every time an incident like this occurs. Since 1966, there have been 14 serious eye injuries and seven pro players have been forced to retire after losing eyes or being partially blinded by sticks, pucks or skate blades. Still, at the end of the world of hockey, most players resist wearing visor chin protectors they limit their vision or make them look like insects. Maple Leafs president Ken Dryden said he felt that it is only a matter of time before full visors become as commonplace as goalie masks. Sadly, it takes a tragedy like Berard's to bring that day along.

Reform on the line

Born in a spirit of western anger in 1987, the Reform party is taking this week to contemplate its own demise. As many as 60,000 grassroots Reformers are voting by mail in ballot whether to junk the party that is Canada's official Opposition and create a new right-wing alternative called the Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance. Hanging in the balance as the ballots are counted on the weekend is the political future of such luminaries as Preston Manning and Alberta Treasurer Soodwell Day, who are interested only in leading an expanded party. Also in the balance may be the Reform movement's western face: a two-thirds majority is needed to scuttle Reform and create a founding convention for the Canadian Alliance on June 24. The leadership of that party would be decided by the one-member, one-vote system, and perhaps even by new adherents in populist Ontario.

Blurry-eyed clarity bill

Blurred and fringed from two nights of voting on amendments that didn't have a chance of passing, MPs finished second reading of the Liberal government's clarity bill, the act to set rules for any bid for Quebec secession. Some MPs were in their seats for 20 straight hours for the marathon voting, mostly on more than 400 amendments put forward by the Bloc Québécois. The only winners' smiles, buoyed by a successful NDP amendment that ensured that they be consulted in the event of a post-secession vote in Quebec.

Tainted by RCMP money

The Crown's case against accused patch vendor Wiebo Ludwig took a shot across the bow last week when the presiding judge said he felt the main witness was not believable. Police informant Robert Whaght, a former fiscal friend of the Ludwigs, recounted discussions about bomb-making and arson. But Justice Sterling Sanderson, hearing the case without a jury, said Whaght had been paid \$450 weekly to spy on the Ludwigs plus a \$10,000 lump-sum payment. Another \$10,000 a day after the trial, and he intends to apply for the oil companies' \$100,000 reward, the judge was told.

Environmental wreckage

Nearly 45,000 litres of sulphuric acid is seeping into the waterways around Temagami and North Bay, Ont., killing fish and wildlife, the result of a dam on Ontario's Northland rail cars jumping the track and toppling down an embankment last week. One of a spate of rail accidents on rural lines in the past year, the mishap is adding to pressure on Ottawa to force the upgrading of track and signal systems in remote areas.

Down with the ships

A chastened B.C. government has put its four fish farms on the block—at five-year prices. The shrimpen-cashed prawn boats were the pet project of former premier Glen Clark, but his NDP colleagues are now trying to peddle the farms, which cost a total of \$465 million to build, for just \$40 million apiece. The province is also absorbing the \$1.1-billion debt of the Crown corporation B.C. Ferries.

Pay more at the tap

The Canada-U.S. body that monitors the Great Lakes says the two countries should not permit any bulk export of water. But the International Joint Commission also says that water is undervalued in both countries and that subsidies, particularly for irrigation, should be phased out.

A Black day in court

Jean Chrétien was endorsing his prime ministerial protégé when he advised the Queen not to grant publishing oxygen Conrad Black's peerage last June, Justice Patrick LeSage of the Ontario Superior Court ruled. Black may only sue the federal government—not the Prime Minister personally—for blocking the proposed British title. LeSage said Black, who accused the Prime Minister of abusing his power, and he will appeal LeSage's ruling.

Road rage

A 28-year-old passenger was shot and killed at an exit on the Laval automobile north of Montreal when the



Another development in Canada's rural truck safety

driver of his car stopped another to criticize his driving. It was the second road rage incident in Quebec in a month. A 50-year-old woman died of a heart attack eight hours after a heated argument on March 4. The driver she argued with is charged with involuntary homicide.

An increasingly urban future

Toronto and Vancouver were among the five fastest-growing cities in North America in the 1990s and they will likely stay that course over the next 10 years, says a survey by Strategic Projection Inc. Canada's seven largest cities will account for 75 per cent of the population growth over the next decade, the survey says. The fastest-growing are expected to be Vancouver (28 per cent growth over 10 years), Calgary (23 per cent), Toronto (20 per cent), Halifax (18 per cent), and Montreal (16 per cent). Of the smaller centres, Burnaby, Co., Kelowna, B.C., and Victoria will grow by at least 3.4 per cent a year.

Taking a bow in Quebec

Quebec Finance Minister Bernard Landry cut income taxes and increased health-care spending by \$2.5 billion as provincial finances finally caught up with a booming economy. Quebec's average tax rate will be reduced 15 per cent by 2002, but would still be among the highest in North America.

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Man of Mystery

Vladimir Putin is poised to be elected Russian president. But the question is, 'Where does he stand?'

By Malcolm Gray in Moscow

Even a walk that he describes as "waddling like a goose" has not hampered Vladimir Putin's seemingly inevitable victory march to the Russian presidency next week. The latest opinion polls show him with a lead of more than 50 percentage points over his nearest rival. And his supporters are only positive in such terms as his clipped speech pattern (bribe and to the point) and his handling of the nagging war in Chechnya (decisive). As for his distinctive gait, Lada Smirnova, the widely known film screen from the Soviet era, offered an upbeat take on the sitting president's carriage during a Kremlin reception to mark International Women's Day earlier this month. "The way a man walks shows his character, personality and generally his self-power," said the 85-year-old actress. "You have a splendid way of walking."

What more could a 47-year-old ex-KGB spy ask for as he waits to succeed a retiring leader through the ballot box—the first such peaceful transition in Russian history? His biggest worry is that fewer than 50 per cent of registered voters will bother to turn out for what they might see as a done deal, thereby triggering a new election. Things have largely gone Putin's way since the sifting and erratic Boris Yeltsin's surprise resignation on New Year's Eve last month. Putin, then the prime minister for the past four months, was a president-in-waiting. Putin had earlier won widespread popularity for his relentless military

retreat the recent loss of more than 100 elite Russian soldiers in some of the bloodiest fighting of the war.

Soaring prices for Russian oil exports, a stable ruble and signs of recovery after a 1998 economic crash have also helped Putin's ratings. Oil revenues are expected to pour at least \$6 billion into the federal treasury this year, allowing the government to cover the costs of the Chechen war as well as maintaining Russia's need to seek loans from the International Monetary Fund and other foreign lenders. And after the corruption, stagnation and drift of the late Yeltsin era, the president-in-waiting is younger, fitter and, for more vigorous—and unlike his predecessor, emphatically not a vodka drinker.

But Putin still seems a mystery to fellow Russians and foreign alike. He has skillfully maintained his popularity through a deliberately dull election strategy that is short on specifics. Soldiers and defence workers like him because he was a strong military with improved weaponry. Nationalists want to see Russia's fallen imperial status. And Russians from all walks of life want to believe that he is the strong leader the country needs to improve the economy and bring order and discipline to a society plagued by crime and corruption. Putin even has a sensible Russian political opposition working for him. It holds that the country's parade of rulers since the czarist era has been alternately bad then honest. Yeltsin had a full postmortem: Putin is holding. Game over.

Just don't ask the five-foot, six-inch tall judge-black belt to reveal his plans for change before the election. "I don't want my program to become an object of attack," he said last month. "As soon as it is made public, it will be gnawed at and torn in pieces." He maintained that position in a recent lengthy interview with Moscow's influential daily newspaper *Kommersant* (Businessman). Asked how he planned to transform Russian society, he simply replied "I will try."

Unconcerned staff, but his ratings have held steady as he has also declined to take part in debates with the other 11 presidential candidates including him. Communist party leader Gennady Zyuganov is the closest, but Yeltsin's punching bag in the 1996 election campaign appears headed for another election flop. He has been unable to broaden his appeal beyond a hard-core 20-plus per cent and seems unable to de-



Putin (left) as a Siberian oil rig employee, not a vodka drinker like Yeltsin

vise media to counter Putin's steady approach to campaigning. As for Russia's politicians of the moment, even having his message through political ads is beneath Putin. As he put it in an interview: terms that appeal to many Russians. "I will not be trying to find out in the course of my election campaign which is more important, Tempus or Stench."

Western leaders and diplomats in Moscow see no better off than the bedazzled Russian electorate in coming to grips with the Putin phenomenon—even though they can see benefits ranging from advances on stalled nuclear arms races to investment and business opportunities in an improving Russian economy under a strong leader. "The United States can do business with this man," declared President Bill Clinton in a recent speech that Putin advances made sure ran on Russia's three national TV networks—two of them controlled by the Kremlin.

Rod Jones, Canada's ambassador to Russia, has a unique perspective on Putin's phenomenal rise. Irwin, 58, a bearded and amiable career diplomat who served a two-year tour in Russia during the late 1970s, returned to Moscow in September. "The dawn of the Putin era," he jokes. While noting that Putin is the third prime minister in a row to be drawn from the security services, Irwin adds that Putin's pride in his

KGB affiliation arouses more concern about him than it does at home. "Power agencies like the KGB have played an important role at the centre of government here for a long time," Irwin notes. "How authoritarian is he likely to be? For that we will have to wait until after the election." Still, the ambassador maintains that Russia is unlikely to revert to the closed society that he encountered during the final years of Soviet dictator Leonid Brezhnev. "There have been too many changes since then," he says. "Nobody now would put up with the pressures they had to endure then."

As for risk-averse Canadian businessmen considering putting money into Russia, Irwin says Putin has moved beyond the old saw that Russia with a consumer market of 147 million people and vast resources is brimming with opportunities. For one thing, the 1998 economic crash and devaluation of the ruble severely shook investors' confidence, and it swiftly cut Canadian exports to Russia by more than half, from \$379 million in 1997.

Without providing details, Putin repeatedly stresses that he intends to reform the country's tangled and primitive taxation system and guaranteeing the security of foreign investments. But Irwin predicts that significant Canadian and other foreign investment will return to Russia as businessmen are convinced that their money is safe and that laws will be applied fairly. "They will have to feel that they are not going to be ripped off," he adds. In the short term, that means the Russians are not soon likely to roll out the red carpet for Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and a Team Canada contingent of journalistic investors.

By Putin's account, it was his personal experience abroad, spying on NATO from East Germany in 1985 and witnessing events that led to the fall of the Berlin Wall, that forced him to acknowledge that communism was a spent force. He returned to Russia and ended a 17-year career with the KGB. That KGB connection was overlooked by many of the country's so-called reformers such as Anatoly Sobchak, who taught Putin law at Leningrad State University. When Sobchak became the city's first post-communist mayor, he hired his former student to fill a high post.

Some critics argue that beneath Putin's reformer veneer lies an assassin in waiting. Nikhail Petrov, a political researcher at Moscow's Carnegie Centre, for one, says Putin tends to



Rudakov's notorious underworld

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World

place people into two categories: those who are far left, and enemies. Andrus Babinsky, a correspondent for U.S.-based Radio Liberty wound up on the enemies' list. He did so by being one of the few Russian journalists who broke with the official Kremlin line on the Chechen war, which holds that the so-called anti-terrorist operation was meant to endgame those whom Putin blamed for blowing up apartment buildings in Moscow and other Russian cities last fall, killing some 300 people. Working in rebel-held territory, Babinsky revealed instead that a Russian offensive had asked heavily on high explosives and heavy weaponry was largely killing and wounding civilians. That earned him harsh criticism from Putin and tough treatment from security agents who arrested him as the Chechen capital of Grozny fell to federal forces last month. "What Babinsky did was more dangerous than firing off a machine-gun," Putin said, defending his government's decision to trade Babinsky to the rebels in exchange for five captured Russian soldiers.

But Putin took a different approach when asked why he has not moved against Pavel Borodin, his former boss in the presidential administration. Swiss authorities allege that Borodin has received millions of dollars in kickbacks from contractors who were removing part of the Kremlin. "There's a golden rule, a founding principle of any democratic nation called presumption of innocence," Putin said in defense of Borodin. To political researcher Petrus Paton, acts on his own subjective interpretation of the law. "He is not a man who can do things in platonic terms," says Paton. "That approach was ground into him during his KGB service."

Paton and others who share his liberal views expect an authentication regime to limit the rights and freedoms that Russians have had since communism collapsed. But that prospect does not worry anxious Semenov and millions of other Russians in deep prep work as vote on March 26. They apparently feel that democracy has been a mixed blessing—and hope Putin can deliver on his promise of order. ■

Washington



Andrew Phillips

They don't want our water

What is it about water that sends a particular sort of Canadian right off the deep end? Consider this recent beggar letter from the Council of Canadians, signed by Masdar Barlow, "Volunteer National Chairperson."

"Dear Concerned Friend... They're coming to take our water... Diverting our water will not be easy... So please take a moment to sign the enclosed petition and send a contribution of \$35, \$50 or \$100 to the Council of Canadians so we can save our precious lake water."

And on and on. The letter effectively pushes a hot button for many Canadians, the fear that "they" (read the big bad Americans) are out to drain Canada dry. Surely they'll eventually run out of water, goes the argument. Surely they'll look north. Surely we'll be forced to sell it to them—especially now that we've agreed our rights away under international trade agreements like NAFTA and the WTO accords. Surely.

Actually, not. The great water export threat has always been a phoney issue, the Phantom Menace of U.S.-Canadian relations. From the hysterical tone of Barlow's letter you'd think the St. Lawrence Seaway was jam-packed with tanker ready to ship water off to San Diego. The fact is, there are no serious proposals for bulk-water exports from Canada and no prospects for any, as a significant new report issued last week by the International Joint Commission makes abundantly clear.

The IJC is the Canadian-U.S. agency that has overseen boundary waters since 1969. Ottawa asked it to review the touchy issue of water exports a year ago, after a small Ontario company, Nova Group Ltd., won a permit from the province to ship Great Lakes water to Asia. A great howl of protest ensued. Ottawa immediately backed off and banned exports, the federal government followed by subsidizing exports from the Great Lakes and other boundary waters on environmental grounds. The IJC last week added its voice to the chorus, urging federal, provincial and state governments to adopt rules for large-scale water exports to ensure that they would be virtually impossible to meet.

The most interesting part of the IJC report, however, is its rigorous documentation of the absence of a threat. It's been two full governments since engineers drew up mind-bending schemes to divert water from James Bay and the Mackenzie

River to thirsty parts of the American heartland. Nothing came of them then—and it's unlikely they would be resurrected now in an environmentally conscious era.

Just as important, they make no economic sense. American cities running low on water find it far cheaper to adopt conservation measures, switch water from agricultural uses—or even extract fresh water from the sea, in Tampa, Fla., is about to do it. It's funny to think they're out to grab Canadian water. In the IJC's dispassionate language: "There is little reason to believe that such projects will become economically, environmentally and socially feasible in the foreseeable future." The IJC also dismisses the argument that NAFTA and WTO force Canada to give up sovereign control of its water. All they do is prevent governments from discriminating against people from other countries if they ever do decide to trade in water.

In the end, there's nothing left but the perennial Canadian angst that someday, someone will come for our water and we'll be powerless to stop it. In Washington recently, federal Environment Minister David Anderson all but acknowledged that fact when he defended attempts to stop exports on the grounds that Canadians have "the latest historical memory" of massive water-diversion schemes, and added "We're dealing with psychology here."

That's fine, but it diverts attention from Canada's real water problem—that we are spectacular wasteful of our "most precious resource." The IJC notes that Canadians

and Americans use almost twice as much water per person as the average in industrial countries. It suggests moving to "true-cost pricing"—or in the words of its Canadian chairmen, Leonard Leppack, chugging "a high enough price to make people think when they turn on the tap."

Another report, by the UN-sponsored World Commission on Water, came to a similar conclusion last week, suggesting that governments stop subsidizing the construction of water-supply systems in order to promote conservation. Moments like that might actually guarantee a secure supply for the future. But, of course, they're not as emotionally satisfying as railing against the Yella and the big corporations. And they're unlikely to frighten Canadians into sending their cheques off to Mr. Barlow's organization.



Angara Falls: a phoney issue



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The campaign begins

In a week in which both Democratic All Gov and Republican George W. Bush won delegate primaries virtually securing their presidential nominations, Gore challenged the Texas governor to reject the use of so-called soft, or unregulated, money from corporations and unions. But Bush countered that the vice-president has failed to answer all questions surrounding his role in questionable fund-raising during the 1996 Clinton-Gore campaign.

A sweeping victory

Spanish voters enjoying an economic boom overwhelmingly re-elected Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar and his conservative Popular Party, capturing 183 of the 350 parliamentary seats and 45 per cent of the popular vote. The 47-year-old former tax inspector's free-market policies are credited with revitalizing Spain's now-vibrant economy.

A teeny, teeny human relative

Anthropologists have discovered another possible missing link—fossils of thumb-nailed primates in a limestone quarry in eastern China. Weighing less than an ounce, the insect-sized animals are believed to have lived 45 million years ago and represent the smallest and earliest-known primate relative of the apes and humans.

Key Iranian reformer shot

Saeed Hajjarian, a key architect of Iran's reformer movement, was shot in the face to what President Mohammad Khatami considered an "unlucky" attempt to stop progress. While on one distant responsibility for the attack that left the presidential adviser in a coma, pro-infant newspapers blamed religious conservatives who lost power in last month's elections.

After the floods

Aid workers battle outbreaks of life-threatening malaria and cholera in Mozambique in the wake of devastating floods that killed at least 500 people and left 300,000 homeless. Health officials fear the malaria could spread further as water left behind by the floods serves as a breeding ground for disease-carrying mosquitoes.

World Notes



Millions mass for Muslim holy festival

Muslims from around the world pray at the Grand Mosque in Mecca before the sacred Kaaba shrine, which contains the Black Stone of Mecca given by God to Adam after his expulsion from paradise. Nearly two million Muslims travelled to Mecca for the annual hajj, or pilgrimage to holy sites.

Chen wins historic ballot in Taiwan

Ignoring China's belligerent warnings, Taiwanese voters elected opposition leader Chen Shui-bian to the presidency, ending half a century of Nationalist party rule. Chen, 48, of the Democratic Progressive party, defeated populist independent James Soong and Nationalist Vice-President Lien Chen—whose party's image has been badly soiled by political corruption—in the island's first truly contested presidential elections since the Nationalists fled for Taiwan in 1949. A former Taipei mayor, Chen is the past

advocated independence but vowed during the campaign not to declare it. Still, in a flagrant attempt to steer Taiwanese voters away from Chen, Chinese Prime Minister Zhu Rongji warned two weeks ago—in a Beijing news conference televised in Taipei—that the Chinese people were "willing to use all their blood" to prevent Taiwan's independence. After the Sunday vote, Chen reaffirmed his desire to lead a delegation to China before taking office—and not to stir up trouble between China and his prosperous island of 22 million people. Said Chen: "I want to reduce the tensions and conflict that are the result of misunderstandings between the two sides."

Naming names in a bloody civil war

A scathing report written by Robert Fowler, Canada's ambassador to the United Nations, says 10 African states, along with Belgium and Bulgaria, are violating a UN embargo against dealing with Angola's UNITA rebels. The report says the offenders are buying diamonds mined by UNITA, which uses the money to purchase arms from 25-year-old civil war, which has killed at least one million of Angola's 12 million people and left three million homeless. All the countries have denied any wrongdoing.

An Empire Built on Light

Canada's JDS Uniphase Corp. makes fibre-optic components at the heart of the Internet

By Ross Laver

Joel Straus has a reputation for being a bit, well, eccentric. There's that funky black beret he wears practically everywhere but in the shower—his company, Nepron, One-based JDS Uniphase Corp., has even taken to handing copies of it out to visitors. Then there are the warts: the Czech-born physicist keeps one strapped to each wrist. The first is set to his career since one, the second to the time in the day he intends to visit next.

Actually, when you think about it, that one kind of makes sense. But now look down at Straus' feet, on this particular day in early March, his navy pin-striped suit is abnormally paired with two different shoes—one a full brogue, the other a half brogue, both black and, if the truth be told, badly in need of polish.

No matter. People are in the habit of forgiving Straus his little quirks these days, especially if they are fortunate enough to be JDS Uniphase shareholders. In Toronto recently, one grateful investor walked up to Straus in the lobby of his hotel and asked if he could kiss him on the cheek. The stranger had evidently just finished paying for a new kitchen with the profit he had made from investing in JDS Uniphase stock. The kiss, which Straus accepted, was simply the shareholder's way of thanking the 53-year-old president and co-chairman for a job well done.

Well, there may be an understatement. Since last June, when the fibre-optic equipment maker formerly known as JDS Fiol Inc. merged with Uniphase Corp. of San Jose, Calif., the company's shares have rocketed from \$28.75 to a recent high of \$215, giving the company a market value of \$64.2 billion—equal to the combined value of Canada's

Physicist and company co-founder Straus: 'If the industry is moving, we should be able to move with it'

three largest banks. (Last Friday, the shares closed at \$189.) Revenue in the most recent quarter, which ended on Dec. 31, was 119 per cent higher than the combined sales of its two companies in the same period a year earlier. The bottom line: if an investor had been given the choice a year ago of buying shares in either Straus' company or that larger and far better-known symbol of Canadian high-technology prowess, Norcel Networks Corp., he or she would have done twice as well taking a flyer on JDS.

Like many of today's stock market darlings, JDS Uniphase owes its good fortune to the explosive growth of the Internet and electronic commerce. But don't confuse Straus' company—with more than 10,000 employees and \$1.6 billion in annual revenues—with all those dot-com start-ups that appear out of nowhere and make their founders rich on the strength of a half-written business plan and generous servings of hype. Far from being an overnight success, JDS has been playing away for 19 years, ever since Straus and three of his co-workers at Bell-Northern Research Ltd., the defunct research arm of what is now Norcel, decided to go



into business for themselves making components for fibre-optics networks. At the beginning, they ran the company out of a basement, never dreaming that one day the technology they were working on would become one of the linchpins of a communications revolution that touches almost every aspect of modern life, from home entertainment to international finance.

As it turned out, their timing was perfect. In the early 1980s, telephone companies around the world were just beginning to grasp the potential impact of fibre-optic communications—the use of light rather than electricity to transmit large quantities of information—on their industry. Although the technology had been around in a variety of experimental forms since the 1930s, it was not until 1977 that GTE Corp. of Stamford, Conn., installed the world's first commercial fibre-optic telephone circuit, carrying long-distance calls between two suburbs of Los Angeles. Gradually, other phone companies followed suit, using fibre to replace older, less efficient copper wires. Today, there are more than 250 million kilometres of fibre-optic cable around the world handling

80 per cent of all long-distance voice traffic.

At Bell-Northern Research in the late 1970s, Straus was one of a team of physicists and engineers whose job was to design components for Norcel's first generation of fibre-optic systems. They soon realized there was a gap in the company's Rural ID operations. "Our job was to develop a few samples, and then go on to something different, but the people in the labs who were developing the systems needed a continuous supply of these components," says Gary Duck, one of Straus' co-workers at BNR. "In those days, you couldn't buy them off the shelf, so we started working overtime to meet the demand." Eventually Straus, Duck and two other colleagues—Philip Gard-Jones and William Sinclair—decided to put their experience to better use by setting up their own company to design and manufacture parts for optical networks. They called it JDS after the initials of their last names, omitting the second S because, to their ears, three letters sounded better than four. "After all," says Straus, "they didn't call it IBM."

None of the founders had run a business before, so at first things were pretty informal. "This was not a classic Harvard school of management situation where you write a business plan and a profit and loss statement," Straus recalls. "God forbid—we never did. We were more like little shops. If some company had a problem, they'd call JDS. Today, there are far more people competing with us, but in those days we were the problem-solvers. It was lots of fun."

By 1989, JDS Fiol had grown to 70 employees and a respectable \$7 million a year in sales. Revenues were rising by about 35 per cent a year and the future seemed bright, but even then none of the founders foresaw just how big the fibre-optics market was destined to become. One reason is that, until the late 1990s, the growth in demand for telecommunications capacity or bandwidth was more or less linear. Every year, telephone companies installed more lines and their customers placed more long-distance calls, with the result that the industry's overall traffic levels were increasing at between five and eight per cent a year. The widespread introduction of fax machines in the late 1980s and the growing use of computer conferencing networks added modestly to the demand, but didn't fundamentally alter the industry's need for capacity. Neither did the Internet, which in those days was used almost exclusively by university-based researchers. In such a predictable environment, phone companies typically bought capacity on international contracts 20 or 25 years ahead of time, confident that when the time came they would have enough bandwidth to handle their needs.

What changed everything was the invention of the World Wide Web in 1990 by Tim Berners-Lee, a British computer

The pace is hectic, with JDS Uniphase announcing seven takeovers worth more than \$27 billion in the past six months

scientist then working in Switzerland. Until then, virtually all of the traffic over the Internet had consisted of things like e-mail and other text documents. The Web, however, made it possible to combine text with photos and other graphics, the transmission of which typically requires far more bandwidth. More recently, Web page designers have begun to make extensive use of audio and video files, increasing by orders of magnitude the amount of network capacity required to download information from these sites. A single 15-second video clip, for example,

can easily consume as much bandwidth as several full-length novels.

The other major change that has fuelled demand for capacity on the world's telecommunications networks is, of course, the rapidly growing number of people and organizations using the Internet. Until the late 1980s, the Net was effectively off-limits to most computer users. The volume of online traffic picked up after the appearance of the first public-access Internet service providers in 1989, but what really caused Internet usage to soar was the introduction of the first commercial Web browser, Netscape Navigator, in 1994. In that year, there were an estimated 13.5 million people around the world hooked up to the Internet.

High Flyer

The weekly closing price of JDS Uniphase stock since the shares began trading in July, 1999



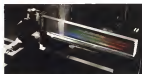
Now, there are 130 million active users, and the number is expected to hit 350 million by 2003. And instead of swapping single text files, many of these people are exchanging things like digitized songs and even pivotal full-length Hollywood movies—driving bandwidth consumption to previously unimagined levels. (Ironically, Strain himself is not a regular Internet user. "I get on once a while, but actually I'm a computer fanatic," he says.)

The Web is growing to be a boon for the entire fiber-optics industry, but particularly for companies such as JDS. That's because its specialty is a technology known as wave-

length division multiplexing, or WDM. Fiber-optics systems work by sending digitized information—essentially a stream of ones and zeros—into rapid-fire pulses of invisible infrared light generated by a laser beam. Traveling at the speed of light, 300,000 km per second, the pulses move along a hair-thin fiber made of glass so pure that a person could look through a wall of it 70 km thick and still see a light bulb glowing on the other side. The first fiber-optic networks in the 1970s used a single beam of light, but before long scientists figured out how to split that beam into two colors, or wavelengths, thereby doubling capacity. In recent years, as demand for bandwidth has increased exponentially, researchers have developed new systems that can split light into many more wavelengths, each carrying a separate stream of data.

The latest multiplexers from JDS Uniphase are capable of dividing light into 160 wavelengths, allowing phone companies to massively increase the capacity of their fiber networks without having to install new cables. The equipment to do so isn't cheap—such upgrades can run into many millions of dollars—but even that is far less expensive than the traditional approach of digging a trench and installing new lines. The race of thumb in the industry is that the cost of laying new fiber from one city to another works out to about \$300,000 per kilometer. What's more, a project like that generally stretches out over many months, whereas an existing line can be upgraded with the latest WDM technology in as little as a few weeks. "The growth in bandwidth demand today is very fast and WDM is really the only solution," says Joseph Lip, senior vice-president for product strategy at JDS Uniphase. "Any other method will also lag and probably be more costly."

One of Strain's favorite sayings is that nobody has a monopoly on brains, and it's true that JDS owes much of its success to luck: the company is at the right place at the right time, with products that the telecommunications industry can't do without. But Strain also deserves credit for the skillful way he has steered the company. In particular, analysts praise his decision last year to merge JDS with Calix, a JDS Uniphase, a similarly fast-growing company that was the leading supplier of so-called active fiber components, including lasers, to telecom equipment providers such as Nortel, Lucent Technologies Inc. of Murray Hill, N.J., and Alcatel SA of France. JDS didn't make active components, but was facing pressure to get into that market so that it could supply



Wave-length separator used in manufacturing specialized fiber; laser chip lab in Zurich (left); Newport computer (opposite); Uniphase

Uniphase facilities in the United States, Europe, Australia and Asia. (Two of the other founders, Duck and Carl-Jens, continue to work at the company, while Strain sits on the board of directors.)

The pace is hectic, with growth the only constant. In the past six months, the company has announced seven takeovers, worth more than \$27 billion. When these deals all close, the company's workforce will swell to more than 12,500, of which more than 7,000 will be located in the Ottawa area, spread among 17 buildings. To make room for further expansion, the company's 65,500-square-meter main building will soon undergo a 33,500-square-meter expansion. When that space is fully occupied, there are plans to develop an adjacent 21-hectare site that is now part of an open field. "If you're managing growth of 35 or 40 per cent a year, it's challenging, but you're not in a sweat-panic," says Cobb. "But when you're doubling on size every year, as we have for the last several years, it just never lets up."

Right now, the company's biggest problem may be keeping up with the towering expectations of its shareholders. Currently, JDS Uniphase has a price-earnings multiple (the ratio between its stock price and its annual per-share profit) of 330, nearly double the average for companies in the telecommunications equipment sector and 15 times the average for all companies in the U.S. Standard & Poor's 500 index. Strain and his colleagues are honest about it, but they're keenly aware that investor sentiment can swing wildly from one extreme to another when companies fail to meet the market's expectations for future growth. "We know that loss of people are reasonably content now and we hope a continuation," Strain says. "But if success is defined by this, what would happen if there wasn't success? It wouldn't be a pretty sight."

Not that Strain sounds particularly worried. It's often said by scientists who work in the field of fiber-optics that the industry is now at a stage equivalent to auto electronics was in the 1950s, before the invention of the integrated circuit and the microprocessor. If that's true, the next two or three decades should bring a succession of technological breakthroughs, creating new opportunities for companies such as JDS Uniphase and greatly increasing the size of the market. "It's far in to see it, but the industry's moving," Strain says. "And if the industry's moving, we should be able to move with it." Moving, that is, at the speed of light. ■



*Loblaws' threatened store:
on cusp of
municipal bylaws*

Check out, please

A Quebec judge orders a supermarket's demolition

For **Gunnhild Brown**, the arrival of the Loblaws chain in her Montreal suburb needed no advance publicity. The 56-year-old retired hairdresser was already looking forward to checking out the sprawling \$15-million supermarket in Brossard that was scheduled to open on March 24. But instead of shoppers, the only thing the 7,400-square-store store may ever utter in is the wedding bell. In a stunning March 9 ruling, a Quebec Superior Court judge ordered Loblaws to tear down the store for violating municipal zoning regulations. In an unusual move, Justice Claude Toffler also ordered the demolition to start within 30 days—even if the company plans to appeal. Brown, who attended a Brossard city council meeting to learn more about the store's fate, was incredulous about the court's decision: "I just think it's ludicrous."

Others are equally taken aback. At its meeting last week, the city—a co-defendant in the case—voted to appeal the ruling. Toronto-based Loblaws Cos. Ltd. also filed an appeal and a motion to suspend the demolition order. The company has faced its share of controversy in Montreal over its so-called leg-

ion stores—but none like the current ruckus. In its decision, Toffler noted that when a retail grocer challenged the building permit in court last fall, instead of suspending construction, the project "was accelerated, so if the intention were to present everyone with a fair accomplish." But company spokesman Laurent Pénin defended the earlier decision to forge ahead with construction: "You can imagine we had all the confidence that our legal position was strong enough."

The zoning dispute dates to 1996 and underscores the competitive nature of Quebec's \$14-billion-a-year grocery industry. Provigo Inc. first opposed plans for the site—until Loblaws bought out the chain in January 1999. Then last October, the owner of a Brossard grocery store, part of the Metro Inc. chain, filed suit against the project, arguing that it did not conform to bylaws that stipulate building-to-land ratios throughout the south shore suburb. Toffler agreed, ruling the Loblaws store was too small for its piece of land. And he dismissed as "fiction" Loblaws' claim that it plans to build three adjacent office towers to bring it up to code.

In his comments, the judge also lambasted Brossard officials for issuing the permit. But acting mayor Louis Gauthier insists, "the city was not trying to give any preferential treatment to Loblaws." The city contends it is caught in the middle of a supermarket war and that the project conforms to zoning regulations. The Metro chain also earned the wrath of some shoppers. Teacher Rosemary Larin, who attended the council meeting with Brown, also sent a letter to Gérard Villeneuve, the store owner behind the court motion, telling him she would no longer shop at his or any other Metro store. "I think," says Larin, "that part of the reaction against Loblaws is a bit nationalistic, provincial or parochial perhaps."

Loblaws first ran into hostility in Quebec in 1989 when it tried to take over the Montreal-based supermarket chain Steinsberg Inc. The Quebec government's investment agency succeeded in blocking the bid. But Loblaws's \$1.74-billion purchase of Provigo last year went much more smoothly. Today, Loblaws is Quebec's leading grocery chain with stores under the Provigo and Maxi banners, as well as its own name.

Last week, the Brossard store looked forlorn with paper covering the windows and a security car blocking access to the parking lot. Still, Brown doubts it will, in fact, be demolished. If it were to wind up a pile of rubble, the city would lose \$250,000 a year in tax revenue and 300 prospective employees will go without those jobs. But other shoppers at a Brossard mall last week had different opinions. "It's interesting for democracy on a certain level," said Daniel Doran, a sales representative. Still, he felt uneasy about the prospect of the new store being razed. "In the end, there won't be a winner or loser," he says. "Everyone will lose." Some of Loblaws' competitors may see it otherwise.

Rebecca Branovell

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Are bank mergers back?

Something doesn't quite add up in the Canadian banking sector these days. And in a sector that built on numbers and careful calculation, any inconsistency bears close scrutiny.

About 18 months ago, four of Canada's largest and most powerful chartered banks were aggressively campaigning to be allowed to merge. Size and economies of scale, they argued, were imperative for them to compete in a turbulent global capital market. When Ottawa thwarted their plans and established a clear set of ground rules for future merger proposals, domestic bankers retreated in sudden silence. Major layoffs were announced, branches were sold or closed and share prices drifted despite solid but equity market. "Basically, 1999 was a year off for the banks," says Jamie Keating, financial services analyst with Merrill Lynch Canada. "They were rebuilding capital and reshaping their game plans."

Over the past month, however, they have emerged from hibernation—fighting fit. And coincident with record profits, reduced operating costs and vastly improved returns on equity for the first quarter of fiscal 2000, the topic of bank mergers has been reintroduced by a recent round of consolidation in Germany, Japanese and Spanish markets. Furthermore, Ottawa's breezy nod to the Toronto Dominion Bank's acquisition of Canada Trust has also set tongues wagging among industry watchers about which banks will keep afloat in the next round of merger talks.

But now the bankers are playing it cool, making it clear they've moved on with their lives. "Mergers are always an option to address a competitive environment, but they're not the only option," says Tracy Cormier, chairman and chief executive officer of the Bank of Montreal. "We're very focused on our strategy."

So far, that strategy is paying off in spades. And the Bank of Montreal has become a perfect example of just what can be accomplished without the merger it once insisted was essential for its survival. The differential between the value of Canadian banking shares and those of American or British banks has narrowed from 90 per cent to about 15 per cent. In fact, the performance of foreign banks has been adversely affected by the painful and costly post-merger integration process, just as Canadian banks were trimming their costs and fattening their margins.

For the first three months of its fiscal year, BMO weighed in with the strongest quarterly performance in its 105-year history. Net income rose up almost 31 per cent, year over year, to \$474 million. However, it is especially significant that almost 53 per cent of these earnings came from outside Canada. And in Cormier's post-merger plan for BMO's future growth, the growth of its Chicago-based Harris Bank subsidiary tops the list.

Since 1994, Harris has expanded its regional market share from 2.5 per cent to nine per cent. The number of branches in the United States has grown from 40 to 150. A Chicago discount brokerage firm has been added to the mix of products and services on offer. BMO is also mulling over the implications of a recent takeover of Mexico's Bancomer, in which it held a 20-per-cent stake. According to Keating, Canada's banks have been focused on international expansion for some time, largely because of Canada's mature market. "It's not a response to the merger, it's been in the works for a while," he notes.

Through its discount brokerage subsidiary, TD Waterhouse Group Inc., TD Bank is poised to push into Japan and India. The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, which is just emerging from a restructuring, has a strong presence on Wall Street with its Oppenheimer division. The Royal Bank of Canada has also been investing heavily in the United States, recently supplementing its online banking presence there with the acquisition of a mortgage broker—and its first U.S. retail branch system.

But what is new is the way that banks like BMO are now using technology to outpace their operational costs. Several of them have formed small venture-capital divisions to fund start-up companies in the high-technology field. Bar BMO has taken that even further by forming direct alliances. It was, for example, a founding partner in the web-based wireless company, 724 Solutions Inc. It made a \$3-million equity investment in the company and helped it to develop the software for its wireless banking and trading technology.

BMO is also a principal in Compucon, which has commercialized the in-house software program for loan approvals. With American Management Systems as its marketing partner, BMO is now selling the service to small and mid-sized U.S. banks which, Cormier explains, do not have the resources to develop such products on their own. Currently, 35 U.S. banks are using the system and Cormier predicts a further 200 will sign up by year's end.

Despite the fact that smaller banks like Comer are playing it cool, Keating, for one, is convinced that, whether they need it or not, there is still a strong desire among them to merge. He points to BMO's recent sale of 34 rural branches in Saskatchewan and Alberta to a number of local credit unions as evidence that a gradual, strategic effort is under way to reduce concentration in certain domestic markets. "The door was never slammed tight on the mergers," he says. That leads to one obvious question, if Ottawa eventually decides to open it, which banks will walk on through?



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An affair to remember—or sue over

Mixing business with pleasure—at least judging by one current court case—seems like a decidedly bad idea. The case involves Canadian Tire Corp. heiress Martha Billis, daughter of one of the retail chain's co-founders,

poth Mount Royal neighborhood. The happy couple became engaged and signed a prenuptial agreement. Then, it all went sour: McArthur broke off the engagement in the fall of 1991. According to court documents



Billis denies allegations

filed by McArthur and Mason (who is suing both McArthur and Billis), a spurned Billis drove Devereaux into bankruptcy in 1992, breached her shareholder's agreement with McArthur and Mason, misled the two of them, and seized the company's assets. Their suits totalled \$11 million for general damages and "aggravated or punitive" damages.

(Mason filed on behalf of her three children, who held a 40-per-cent stake in Devereaux.) Billis denies the allegations and has launched a counterclaim for more than \$5.1 million, claiming she kept shareholders fully informed. "I give me no joy in pursuing this," Mason said outside the court. "But I haven't come this far to walk away now. This company was improperly taken away from my children."

Financial Outlook

The annual inflation rate rose to 2.7 per cent in February, according to Statistics Canada. That was up from 2.3 per cent in January, its largest year-to-



Source: Statistics Canada, Bank of Canada

year rise since June, 1995. Much of the blame goes to higher energy prices. If those costs are excluded, the consumer price index—which measures the cost of a representative sample of goods and services—would have posted an annual increase of 1.3 per cent.

Still, the cost of living has been on the rise since last summer as the economy continues to soar. February's number is close to the upper barrier of the Bank of Canada's one-to-three-per-cent inflation target range, and analysts expect interest rates to rise, at least in the short term, as the central bank tries to cool the economy.

Railway merger off track

The proposed \$9-billion merger of Canadian National Railway Co. and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp. was derailed, temporarily at least, when the U.S. government ordered a moratorium on all railway mergers. The Washington-based Surface Transportation Board issued the order following public hearings into the deal, which would have created the continent's largest railway with 80,000 km of track and 67,000 employees. An earlier round of mergers in the United States in the 1990s caused rail-rail shortages, shipping delays and depressed stock prices. To address those concerns, the regulator plans to adopt new rules governing the industry in about 15 months. Montreal-based CN and Fort Worth, Tex.-based BNSF had asked the board to let their merger move ahead while the rules were being developed. But the board denied the request, saying the companies might be forced to go through the approval process all over again once new standards were in place.

BCE's winning wins TV

CTV Inc.'s board of directors accepted a sweetened takeover bid from BCE Inc. The Montreal-based telecommunications giant offered \$38.50 a share in cash, an increase of 50 cents a share over a Feb. 25 bid valued at \$2.3 billion. A circular from the Toronto-based broadcaster shows CTV president and chief executive Brian Fagan could pocket as much as \$17 million as a result of the takeover bid.

Points for acting fast

When Air Canada was buying last year to take over rival Canadian Airlines International Ltd., one of the more contentious issues was the fate of frequent-flyer points. Last week, points holders got a glimpse of their future when Canadian announced it was withdrawing from the Oneworld alliance on June 3. As a result, those wishing to use their Canadian Plus frequent-flyer points on many of Canadian's partner airlines book their flights by the date. In most cases, travel must be completed within a year. The change will affect the redemption of points on British Airways, Iberia, Qantas Airways, Panair

and Cathay Pacific Airways. Customers, however, will be able to continue using their points on American Airlines. That's because the U.S. carrier struck a deal with Air Canada as part of its exit from joint ownership of Canadian. Late in the week, the two Canadian airlines said that Canadian Plus and Aeroplan members will be able to redeem points on each other's flights starting on April 3. A Canadian spokeswoman said it was too soon to tell when customers might be able to start using their Canadian Plus points on Air Canada's partners in the Star Alliance.

EC cuts aluminum merger

Montreal-based Alcan Aluminum Ltd. and two European companies withdrew their \$25.5-billion proposal to create the world's largest aluminum producer after the European Commission expressed concerns about concentration of ownership. However, Alcan, France's Pechiney SA and Switzerland's Alpiq and they will submit a new three-way proposal to merge dealing with regulators' antitrust concerns.

Cinar's woes continue

Hubbard-and-wife room Michelle Charet and Ronald Weinberg took an "administrative leave" from Cinar Corp., effectively removing them from day-to-day operations of the troubled film company. The two had signed on March 6 as co-occurees after federal authorities began investigating the Montreal-based animation house for tax fraud, and investors in Canada and the United States launched class-action suits. Charet and Weinberg, who control more than 60 per cent of Cinar's stock, will remain on its nine-member board of directors.

The stock markets' wild ride

The tag-of-war between so-called new economy stocks and the old stalwarts of the New York Stock Exchange ended in a dramatic flip-flop. The week began with the Dow Jones industrial average off nearly 14 per cent on the year, while the technology-laden Nasdaq exchange was already up almost 25 per cent. But the Dow shot

up nearly 670 points last week, including a record 499 points on March 16. Analysts say the Dow's surge was fuelled by investors riding profits in technology issues and reinvesting the money in traditional stocks. By the end of the week, the Nasdaq was down five per cent from the high of 5,044 it set on March 10. At the same time, the Toronto Stock Exchange composite index, a mixture of old- and new-era stocks, was flat on the week, finishing up just 0.4 per cent at 3,529.

RRSP time ends with a bang

Canadians poured \$6.5 billion into mutual funds in February, making it the strongest month for the fund industry in nearly two years. January, which saw net sales of just \$1.3 billion, had been anemic. But the climax of the RRSP season on Feb. 28, along with surging domestic and international markets, prompted investors' largesse. That pushed an assets in mutual funds to \$405.3 billion in February, the first time they topped the \$400-billion mark in Canada.

For these students, the idea of making outdoor spaces safer for everyone isn't academic. It's real.



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Ross Laver

Of sentiment and stocks

Joe Kennedy, a legendary speculator and patriarch of America's unofficial royal family, knew it was time to get out of the stock market in 1929 when a shoeshine boy offered him some stock tips. Today, a similar eye-of-destiny feeling can be had mainly by wandering the halls of the typical office building and adding up the number of ordinary Joes—account managers, systems administrators and, yes, journalists—who spend long stretches of the day staring into a computer screen, checking stock prices and feverishly trading shares on company time.

Fortunately, there's no law that says stock market meltdowns are inevitable just because a significant slice of the population is trading actively. If there was, the U.S. market would have crumbled a long time ago.

Still, the more people become convinced that cycling in and out of stocks is a sure route to easy riches, the more vulnerable the market becomes to a sudden and unexpected shift in sentiment. And in that context, it's surely worth pondering the ways in which technology has, in the span of four or five years, transformed the art and science of stock trading.

We're not talking here about the mania for tech stocks, although obviously that's an important part of what's been going on. One of the rallying cries of end-of-the-century investors down through the years has always been, "This time it's different." Those who cling to that view today mean, in effect, that computers and assorted other new technologies have boosted productivity and made it possible for the economy to grow faster for a sustained period without overheating. In the States they call this the "new paradigm theory," and there's nothing like it to trigger a furious debate among otherwise dispassionate economists and policy-makers.

In one sense, though, it's obvious that things really are different this time. Whatever its implications for productivity, technology in the form of the personal computer and the Web has enabled legions of unapologetic investors to play what amounts to a high-stakes video game. In Joe Kennedy's day, you couldn't buy or sell a share on a public exchange without talking to a broker and forking over a sizable commission. And unless you stood outside the exchange all day or were rich enough to have your own personal stock ticker, it was physically impossible to follow the day's trading action in your favorite shares.

In the past five years, all that has changed. Discount broker-charge a flat \$30 or so per online trade, regardless of the

number of shares, and far less than that in the United States. The Web has also made it possible for amateur investors to tap a wealth of free market information—up-to-the-minute stock quotes and charts, detailed trading reports and all sorts of arcane statistical data.

All of this has created a fertile breeding ground for speculators. The other week, while waiting in the lobby of a downtown office building, I overheard two shaggy young men, evidently students, swapping stock tips about firms they plainly knew nothing about. ("It's this, uh, cool biotech company and my roommate says it's got some kind of, like, cure for cancer," volunteered one, as the other nodded sagely.) Later the same day, on the subway, I found myself standing next to another unlikely pair of high-rollers who were congratulating themselves on having made money from the current frenzy for companies targeting business-to-business e-commerce—B2B, for those in the know. They didn't look like shoeshine boys, but you can never tell.

The more popular online trading becomes, the more the run-of-the-mill corporate office begins to resemble a high-tech trading floor. Taking advantage of their employers' high-speed Internet connections, millions of workers across North America now monitor their stock

portfolios from their desktops, surreptitiously up chairs and scanning financial news for prospective investments. Some surveys suggest that almost one-third of online investors do their trading at work. That may undermine the stereotype so far this year, Canada's major online broker have experienced daytime trading volumes at least three times greater than in the same period a year earlier. "I wouldn't want my boss to know I was trading during business hours, but maybe if he paid me more I wouldn't have to," said one 33-year-old marketing consultant. Online trading, he added, "is addictive—kind of like a contest that requires skill and good timing."

By the way, the name of Joe Kennedy's stock-happy shoeshine boy was Patrick Bologna. The hapless boothbait was wiped out in the Great Crash of 1929, but continued to polish shoes on Wall Street for many years afterward. One of his three children, William Bologna, grew up to become an advertising man, but is now chairman and CEO of Columbia Laboratories Inc., a small Miami-based pharmaceutical company that has lost money in 11 of its 12 years but whose shares have quadrupled in the past year. A sign of a market top? Now this time it's different.



Trading exchange transformed

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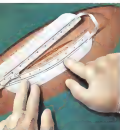
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A zip in time

Afraid of stitches? Enter the Medisp surgical apper, made by the Arroz Medical Group Ltd. of Hamilton, Bermuda. Set for release in the United States this summer, the Medisp resembles a cross between a heavy-duty Band-Aid and—as the name implies—a zipper. Instead of sewing a patient together with sutures or closing a wound with skin staples, a surgeon peels away the Medisp's adhesive-strip covering, applies one sticky half to one side of the wound, half to the other and gently zaps the zipper closed, pressing the skin evenly together to heal. The zipper leads to less infection and scarring, the company says. It can be used for a wide variety of predominantly straight wounds. The patient removes the Medisp with water. Arroz plans to start looking for a Canadian distributor in September.

Scary e-book

Author Stephen King, the king of horror, may have horrified some of his fans when his latest "book" went on sale exclusively in digital format over the In-

ternet. Readers who crave the intimacy of thumbing through well-worn, dog-eared copies of their favorite King novels likely shuddered at the fact that the best-selling American fiction writer's 16,000-word novella, *Playing the Killer*, would be sold only as an e-book. Others clearly did not.

Online retail site barnesandnoble.com was inundated by attempts to download the story, which sold for \$3.70. King's publisher, Simon & Schuster, said 400,000 orders were placed in the first 24 hours—far outstripping demand for the release of any conventional book. (The number of orders included copies given away free by a handful of sites, including chapters.ca and amazon.com who wanted to promote the electronic format.) "I'm cautious to see what sort of response there is," King said, "and whether or not this is the future." Looks like there may well be one—at least for cult favorites like King.

Police charge an infamous rapist

Authorities know him only as John Doe, the East Side serial rapist, and while New York City police have no idea who he is or where he is, they have his DNA. With that forensic information alone, Manhattan district attorney Robert Morgenthau obtained an indictment of the unknown serial predator, one of the first times a U.S. citizen has been charged with a crime based solely on his genetic code. "Although this is New York state's first grand jury indictment of a John Doe identified by DNA," said Morgenthau, "I am certain it will not be the last."

The grand jury had the charges in connection with two rapes in 1995 and a third in 1997. The five-year statute of limitations on one was just fast days away from expiring when the grand jury reached its decision, said Morgenthau. The rapist is believed to be responsible for at least 16 attacks, 15 of them on Manhattan's Upper East Side.

Investigation collected DNA in four of the cases and say another indictment is pending. The odds of a genetic match occurring with anyone other than the East Side rapist, said Morgenthau, are one in 240 billion.

Cool Sites

Spotting the Space Station

Anyone who has ever air-gazed has likely spotted satellites as they track steadily across the night sky. For those interested in sighting either the Inter-



Orbiting the Earth: backyard sightlings

national Space Station or one of the space shuttles with the unaided eye, NASA has a Web site called SkyWatch. Located at www.skywatch.nasa.gov/skywatch.html, the site provides surfers with a directory of sites and instructions on when and where to look. Great for backyard astronomers.

Virtual tunes

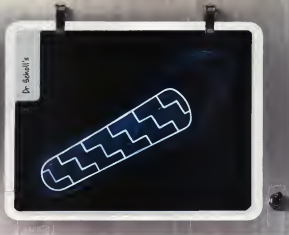
The National Library of Canada has a solution for music aficionados who can remember 78-rp vs. disc, the virtual gramophone, located at www2.nlc.ca/gramophone/collections.htm. Visitors to the site can choose from a variety of music showcasing the first half-century of recorded sound in Canada.

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exclusive bipolar magnet system, allow alternating waves of magnet therapy to penetrate your body through the soles of your feet. Add to that, Dr. Scholl's performance proven comfort technology designed to absorb shock and enhance pain relief,

and you have all the reasons you need to look into Dr. Scholl's new Magna-Energy insoles for yourself. Available in the footcare section of your pharmacy.



Health Monitor

Can anyone own genetic data?

With the 10-year-old Human Genome Project threatened by a profit-minded entrepreneur bent on patenting genetic knowledge, U.S. President Bill Clinton and British Prime Minister Tony Blair appealed for information about humanity's genetic endowment to "be made freely available to scientists everywhere." Their joint statement referred to the task of unravelling the chemical code for some 100,000 human genes—expected to give medical researchers unprecedented insight into the causes of human disease—as "one of the most significant scientific projects of all time." While calling for free dissemination of basic genetic data so that scientists everywhere "could realize the full promise" of genetic research, the Clinton-Blair declaration acknowledged that drugs and other treatments developed from the new knowledge should have patent protection. Still, their challenge to the promise of patenting genetic information joined financial markets as investors dumped some biotechnology stocks.

The joint communique followed the breakdown of negotiations on possible collaboration between the \$5-billion Human Genome Project—funded largely by the U.S. government and Britain's Wellcome Trust charity—and the privately funded Rodrikoff, Md.-based Celera Corp. While the genome project is



making its data public, Celera is seeking patents on genetic information that could lead to medical breakthroughs. A genome project scientist and talks with Celera founder on the firm's apparent desire to have "an effective monopoly over the human genome." Genome project officials expect to finish decoding the genome in 2003, while Celera says it will complete its work this year. Researchers expect the identification of the human genetic chain will lead to a revolution in the prevention and treatment of disease.



In search of a supply of organs for transplants

Starting with cells from an adult female pig, scientists produced five cloned piglets—named Millie, Christa, Alexis, Corrie and Debbie—whose descendants could someday provide hearts, kidneys and other organs for implantation in late humans. The piglets, born in Blacksburg, Va., were bred using technology developed by PPL Therapeutics PLC, an offshoot of Scotland's Roslin Institute, which bred Dolly the sheep—the first clone of an adult mammal—born in July, 1996. The cloned piglets are the first step in a process that PPL scientists hope will create pigs with organs that can be used in humans with minimal risk of rejection.

Cancer's 'switch'

In a discovery that could pave the way for drugs capable of defeating some types of cancer, researchers at the British Columbia Cancer Agency have pinpointed a genetic "switch" that helps turn healthy cells into killers. The researchers under molecular biologist Shrikant Dodia said an enzyme called ILK that is hyperactive in about 60 per cent of human cancers plays a key role in helping cancer cells grow and developing the blood vessels needed to keep cancers alive. In a report published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the researchers said experi-

mental drugs developed by Vancouver-based Kinexx Pharmaceuticals Inc. decreased ILK and halted cancer growth in mice and in cancerous human cells tested in the laboratory. The scientists said they hoped trials to test the drugs in humans would begin within a few years.

Early detection

Within a few years, physicians may be able to detect some kinds of cancer by testing samples of patients' saliva or urine. Writing in the journal *Science*, researchers at Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University said they had discovered antibodies, head, lung

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Health Monitor

and neck cancer by testing for mutations in genetic material found in bodily fluids. Such a test, if approved, would be simpler and faster than the current method of taking tissue from suspected cancer patients for analysis—and could allow detection at an earlier stage, when the cancer may be curable. The researchers said further research and testing were needed before the new method would be ready for widespread use.

Estrogen doubts

Research involving older women with heart problems has borne out an earlier study that cast doubt on the belief that tablets containing the hormone estrogen can protect older women from cardiac disease. Dividing 300 post-menopausal women into three groups, researchers from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, N.C., compared cholesterol buildup among those given estrogen tablets with those given estrogen along with another hormone, progesterin. Reporting at an American College of Cardiology meeting in Anaheim, Calif., the researchers said they found no difference in the rate at which heart disease progressed in the three groups.

Arthritis relief

A team of Boston researchers reports that two widely used osteoarthritis remedies viewed with skepticism by many medical experts may in fact alleviate symptoms of the degenerative joint disease. In a report published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the scientists said they evaluated 15 previous studies of glucosamine and chondroitin, synthetic versions of substances that help build cartilage in the human body. They concluded that the remedies probably have "some efficacy" in treating osteoarthritis symptoms.



Strange, it doesn't look like an endangered species.

And yet, for cancer, kidney, HIV/AIDS and surgical patients, the red blood cell may be a quickly vanishing breed.

THE PREDATOR: ANEMIA.

It may not be a monster, but it is a menace. Anemia is the medical term for an abnormally low red blood cell count. Why is that a problem? Well, red blood cells carry oxygen throughout the body to nourish tissues and sustain life. When your body fails to produce these red cells at a satisfactory rate, trouble is sure to follow.

Unfortunately, there's no one culprit to point a finger at. Some types of anemia are caused by simple reasons and are temporary in nature. Anemia may arise from a poor diet. Then again, it may be due to poor absorption or a shortage of iron, vitamin B₁₂, or folic acid. Other anemia may be traced to blood loss, such as during menstruation or surgery, or from a bleeding ulcer.

For some people, anemia is an inherited condition. For others, it develops as a result of chronic diseases like cancer, kidney disease or HIV/AIDS. Regardless of the cause, even mild anemia can result in debilitating fatigue, shortness of breath, dizziness and confusion.

And to complicate matters further, anemia can affect the functioning of your heart, lungs, kidneys and liver.

SO WHO SHOULD BE ON RED BLOOD CELL DEFENCE?

Cancer Patients. Cancer can reduce red blood cell production. What's more, drugs — for example, those used in chemotherapy — prevent your body from producing red blood cells. The truth is, for more than 50% of patients receiving chemotherapy, anemia is a side effect of that treatment and affects their response to it. The good news is, treating the anemia reduces the risk of recurrence of cancer.

Kidney Patients. When the kidneys do not function normally (as is often the case with diabetes), the body may underproduce a naturally occurring hormone called erythropoietin (or Greek: erythra means "red" and poietis means "the making of things"), which helps produce red blood cells. As a result, body tissues especially the heart, do not receive an adequate supply of oxygen. If it's no wonder that heart disease is the number one cause of death among patients with end stage kidney disease.

HIV/AIDS Patients. Almost 40% of patients who have progressed to clinical AIDS have anemia as a result of either the disease itself or protease inhibitor treatments. AIDS patients with anemia have an increased risk of death. Fortunately, treating the anemia reduces that risk and improves a patient's energy and quality of life.

Surgery Patients. There are many things to think about when it comes to undergoing surgery, and anemia may not be at the top of the list. But consider this: patients who have high red blood cell counts after surgery recover faster and spend less time in hospital.

THIS WILL MAKE YOU REALLY SEE RED.

In fact, red blood cells are the most abundant cells in our bodies, men have about 5,000,000 and women about 4,500,000 per cubic millimeter of blood. The most important constituent of red blood cells is an iron-rich protein substance called hemoglobin. When the hemoglobin in your red blood cells combines with oxygen in your lungs, the red blood cells turn bright red. At the same time, it appears that each red blood cell has between 200 and 300 hemoglobin molecules.

When red blood cells are in scarce supply, you have less hemoglobin to carry oxygen throughout your body. As a result, your organs and tissues are deprived of the sustenance they need, and they start falling down on the job. Chances are, you'll feel very tired, weak, short of breath or dizzy.



Although other substances, such as water and plasma, also carry oxygen, hemoglobin (Hb) is somewhat special because it can carry more than 30 times the amount of oxygen that other substances can carry. That's why it's so vital for you to know your hemoglobin value. Ask your doctor about your red blood cell count and your hemoglobin value. Bear in mind that the normal hemoglobin value is different for men and women. If your hemoglobin value is low, get in the habit of keeping track of it.



THE SYMPTOMS THAT STALK YOU.

To be perfectly honest, the effects of anemia aren't always noticeable right off the bat. But as the condition progresses, you will likely feel tired and look pale. At the same time, you may experience other tell-tale symptoms. Even extra sleep will not help an anemic person feel better.

COMMON SYMPTOMS OF ANEMIA

- fatigue
- weakness
- dizziness
- heart palpitations
- headache
- dizziness
- fainting
- pale skin

If you have symptoms that suggest you may be suffering from anemia, tell your doctor, nurse or other health care professional. After all, the only real way to know if you do have anemia is to have a blood test to check your red blood cell count. Depending on your hemoglobin level and other important blood indicators, your doctor will determine if you have anemia and what might be the cause.

HOW DO YOU ARM YOURSELF FOR BATTLE?

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, we're going to tell you again: Know your hemoglobin value and have it checked regularly. If you are anemic, here are some things you can do that will help.

- Seek nutritional advice about how to include iron- and vitamin-rich foods in your diet.
- Rest. Sleep more at night and take naps during the day.
- Limit your activities. Don't be harsh about asking friends and family to give you a hand with routine tasks.
- Eat well. Try to eat, even when you are tired. Sometimes a little food will give you energy.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Water is best, but any liquid will help your body eliminate toxins.
- Ask about vitamin or iron supplements. If you require a blood transfusion or medication to increase your red blood cell count, you may also need to take iron supplements.



GETTING THOSE CELLS BACK INTO CIRCULATION.

If you are anemic, there are ways you can get your hemoglobin, or Hb count, back to normal and keep it there:

If you have too little iron, vitamin B₁₂ or folic acid to make your red blood cells work adequately, your doctor will likely suggest that you change the foods you are eating or take specific vitamins or iron pills.

On the other hand, if your anemia is due to too few red blood cells caused by cancer, kidney disease, HIV/AIDS or other chronic disease, simply taking an iron supplement or using more healthily may not address the underlying problem. You may need a blood transfusion or medication that works to stimulate the production of red blood cells in your body.



In response to the need for better awareness and understanding of anemia (causes, effects, diagnosis and treatment), the Anemia Institute for Research and Education has been created. We are a non-profit organization committed to generating and sharing knowledge about anemia with both patients and health care professionals. It is our mission to act as a catalyst and champion for enhanced research, advocacy, promotion, and education about anemia in order to achieve better quality of life and health outcomes for those at risk, especially patients who develop anemia as a result of cancer, kidney disease, HIV/AIDS or surgery.



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A diva reflects

"I basically pretended that I wasn't in the category with them," says Chantal Kreviazuk of her competitors for best female artist at this year's Junos. "I was just there as a viewer." Then she won, beating Alanis Morissette and Celine Dion. Her upset win stunned many people—including Kreviazuk. Her emotional acceptance speech included thanks to husband **Raine Maida**, lead singer of Canadian group Our Lady Peace. After some days of reflection, the 26-year-old Winnipeg native says awards change nothing. "A Juno isn't going to write my next song for me." She says she is embarrassed by comparisons to other nominees, especially **Joni Mitchell**, whom she beat in the pop/adult album category. "I went and got Joni food, twice," says Kreviazuk of the time she met Mitchell at a Malibu, Calif., house party. "To me, she's a goddess and pioneer." Kreviazuk hasn't achieved that kind of status, but with the award, and her second album, *Colour Me Crazy* and *Still*, flying up charts, her days of being just a viewer are well behind.

Kreviazuk: her Juno win surprised no one more than herself

Questions never asked

Laurel R. H. Thomson has been thinking of unasked questions. This month at Ontario's Great Canadian Theatre Company, Thomson, 52, is debating *The Last Days*, a one-man show based on the letters of freebushes—his great-grandfather—who fought in the First World War. Of the five, only Art survived. "Although I'm hesitant to use the word, there was a small genocide."



Thomson: his show recounts a family's genocide

Thomson says. He was given the letters as a boy, but never thoroughly read them until 15 years ago. When he did, he was faced with all the questions that could have been answered—if, as a teenager, he had only asked Art more about his experiences. "This play is about more than the war," says Thomson. "It's also about why you never ask, 'What do you lose when you never ask?'" In this instance, Thomson hopes to help provide the answer.

Romance finds a home

Lucene Rice knows a thing or two about Canada. Since she first visited Lunenburg, N.S., a decade ago while checking out film locales for her novel *Blue Moon*, Rice has returned to the Maritimes every summer. Although she and her husband, **Bob Monteleone**, live in Manhattan, Canada plays an increasingly prominent role in her fiction. A third of her new book, *Follow the Stars Home*, is set at Pencoed Island and Rice's next novel will take place entirely in Canada.

Rice, 44, is resigned to being called a romance writer: her best-selling titles, like *Cloud Nine* and *Home Fires*, make that inevitable. But, she argues, her plots grow differently. The relationship in *Follow the Stars Home* is between a mother and her disabled daughter. "I'm a writer who writes about



American author Rice: writing about 'family love' in Canada

family love," Rice asserts. And her work-in-progress incorporates all her family's Canadian passions. Monteleone and his son, **Bob**, often travel to Toronto to see the New York Islanders or New Jersey Devils play the Maple Leafs. The next novel, Rice says, "is about a hockey player" and his family's romance, Canadian style.



Spacey (left) with Annette Bening in *American Beauty*: winning dark, edgy charm into the mainstream

Films

Oscar's *Beauty* and banality

This year, while the best-picture race offers no contest, the real excitement lies in the competition for the acting prizes

By Brian D. Johnson

Every year he appears naked and buff, setting the gold standard in fashion, while the women dance up in his honor. What would Oscar like this year? Should the gown be half-full or half-empty? Sexy or demure? That is the question. Whether as noble as the stand to go bare in some song, worth an outrageous fortune or to beat Aumann against a sea of cleavage, let's face it: *At the 72nd Academy Awards* on March 26, that's what we'll be looking for to see how much of a spectacle the stars can make of themselves just by getting dressed. And in this jaded year of lost balloons and stolen sonnets—a goldmine of material for Billy Crystal—hopefully we'll see at least one wildly embarrassing fashion mistake. Then there are the movies. The Oscar race is supposed to be terribly dignified and inconsistent. But it, too, has become a fashion show, one in which justice is rarely in vogue. Although the past year has been the richest year for movies in ages, you wouldn't know it from looking at the best picture nominees.

Only two of them are Oscar-caliber films—*American Beauty* and *The Insider*—and either would be a worthy winner. *The Cider House Rules* looks the part. It's a messy, stately

saga of orphanage and abortion. But something about it seems solid—*you can almost see the knuckle marks of John Irving's marathon labour to deliver his novel to the screen with four successive directors. That leaves The Green Mile and The Sixth Sense, two cheery supernatural thrillers that did good business but have no business being nominated.*

A number of the moviechoreographers in the acting categories suggest more worthy candidates for best picture—Brett John Malkovich, *Boys Don't Cry*, *Magnum*, *End of the Affair*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and *The Horseman*. In fact, there's a serious discrepancy among this year's Oscar nominations. Of the five contenders for best actor—Kevin Spacey, Russell Crowe, Richard Fieneworth, Sean Penn and Denzel Washington—only two, Spacey and Crowe, are in films that are up for best picture. Among the best actress nominees—Annette Bening, Janet McTeer, Julianne Moore, Meryl Streep and Hilary Swank—only one, Bening's Bening, is from a nominated film.

If nothing else, the Oscars offer a *salutary picture* of the niggard. Just look at the protagonists in the movies Hollywood has decreed the year's five best. They are all male, they are all haunted and their stories all involve pathology and healing. Numbing from the grave in *American Beauty*, Spacey's character looks back on a mid-life crisis in which he ridicules his wife, his son's daughter's teenage girlfriend and gets scored with the boy next door. In *The Insider*, a paranoid scientist with a fading marriage espies tobacco companies as drug dealers. In *The Cider House Rules*, an ingenious orphan in-

provides an abortion to save a black farm labourer who has been oppressed by her father. In *The Green Mile*, a black inmate has magical healing powers that make bugs fly out of his mouth. And in *The Sixth Sense*, a small boy communicates with ghosts.

The overwhelming favourite for best picture is *American Beauty*, which tops the list with eight nominations. It has dominated the pre-Oscar contests, including the Golden Globes and the various awards given out by the Hollywood unions representing directors, actors, producers and writers. Though produced by Steven Spielberg's DreamWorks studios, *American Beauty* marks a coming-of-age for independent film. It was made by a first-time director, Brian's Son Mendes, on a relatively modest budget of \$12 million. And it takes dark, edgy themes into the mainstream. Like an inversion of *The Graduate* three decades down the road, *American Beauty* speaks to two generations at once—to parents who don't want to act their age and to children mature beyond their years. It's a movie about growing up that seems to grow up as we watch it, morphing from suburban satire to Zen drama.

Spacey leads the race for best actor, and he gives a win-



Washington (center) in *The Horseman*; Fieneworth and Crowe in *The Insider* (below): haunted men, pathology and healing



ning performance. But Washington's portrayal of boxer Rubin Carter in *The Hurricane* cuts deeper. And Penn shows more virtuosity as a low-life jay gambler in Woody Allen's *Sweet and Lowdown*. Even the dark horse contenders are strong. Playing straight man to Al Pacino's flamboyant TV journalist, *The Insider's* Crowe is a marvel of controlled intensity. And former screenman Richard Fieneworth, driving a lawn mower down the highway in *The Straight Story*, reminds the true-grit charm he first showed in *Curly Howard's* *The Gay Guy* (1982).

But if there is any justice, Washington should win for best actor. He deserved to win for *Malcolm X* in 1992—when Pacino prevailed with *Son of a Witch*—and he deserves to win for *The Hurricane*. That, however, seems more and more unlikely. Although Narraon Jewison's movie has fared well at the box office, grossing more than \$70 million, it has been damaged by controversy. (Last December, *Maclean's* published the first major story to expose the bitter rift between Carter and the committee of Canadians who had helped fund him after he'd served 15 years in prison, falsely convicted of a triple murder. Since then, various sources, including Carter's authorized biography, have contradicted the film's sordid view of the Canadian who came to his rescue.)

Among the best actress nominees, meanwhile, Bening is favoured for her role as Spacey's comic foil. But again, if there is any justice, the award should go to Swank, who delivers the year's most heartbreaking performance—male or female—in *Boys Don't Cry*, based on the true story of transgendered martyr Teena Brandon. In the supporting categories, because Oscar loves a bit of flash, expect Tim Cruise to win for *Magnum* and Angelina Jolie for *Girl, Interrupted*.

Canadians can root for *The Red Violin's* sound track and the NFB animated short *Where the Day Begins*. But the virtual shuntout of Jewison's film—not to mention the snubbing of actor Jim Carrey (*Men in the Moon*) and director Patricia Rozema (*Mansfield Park*)—have prompted suspicion of an anti-Canadian conspiracy. To be fair, Americans do not think of Carrey as a Canadian. And although he is an inconsistent performer, he has yet to show much depth as an actor. As for Rozema, she is being punished for voicing a hallowed genre with her cheeky modernizing of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*.

Yet it's conceivable that *The Hurricane* was felled by an anti-Canadian backlash. In Hollywood, where the unions have been stung by the angriest of jobs north, the movie's Canadian co-stars—from the Toronto acting to the whole idea of Canada correcting American injustice—must be galling. But Canadians shouldn't take offense at *Slime Canada*, the trademarked song from South Park. *Rigger, Longer and Longer!* The real target of *South Park's* ingenious satire is the phallosclerosis of Middle America. And if you want to blame anyone for the triumph of mediocrity over talent, blame Oscar. ■

most magnificent
her movies of the nominated
wins—and even that
GMAA has lost

Hitler's near-victory

From the perspective of half a century, the outcome of the Second World War seems inevitable, given the combined might of the Allies. "That is certainly true," says historian John Lukacs, author of *Five Days in London* (Yale, \$30.95), a superb reconstruction of a crucial moment in the war. "But it is not true enough. Nothing—nothing—better illustrates the importance of individuals in history than the war. Above all, there was Hitler, who started it, and Churchill, who did not lose it."

Lukacs pinpoints the span of May 24 to May 28, 1940, as the precise period in which Winston Churchill did not lose the war, despite the powerful forces arrayed against him. "With the United States and the Soviet Union still on the sidelines, France was on the verge of

Edward Wood, Lord Halifax. Both Halifax and Chamberlain commanded considerable support among Conservative MPs. Any open break with either man could have been disastrous for Churchill. And Halifax had given up on defeating Germany—he wanted to negotiate peace, thinking to save Britain by ending Entente to the Nazis.

Perhaps the finest aspect of Lukacs' book is the way it shows how rational—almost unscapable—Halifax's conclusion was. Even outside Germany, the 76-year-old American historian writes, "in the minds of many people, Hitler's rule, his regime and ideas, represented a new primary force. In May, 1940, it not only seemed irresistible in many places and in many ways it was." Throughout a decade of Nazi triumph, the

European Establishment was fixated over how best to respond, according to Lukacs. With parliamentary democracy seemingly crumbling across the Continent, many thought Hitler less an evil menace than the only possible bulwark against Soviet communism. "But Hitler's main, instinctive enemy"

also came from the political right, Lukacs emphasizes: "old-line, traditional patriots like Charles de Gaulle and Churchill—reactionaries, in fact."

Using official cabinet records, Lukacs meticulously re-creates the crucial five days of meetings. To counter Halifax's insistent demands for peace feelers, Churchill had few tangible assets at hand. But what he did possess proved decisive: an instinctive faith in the British people's will to resist, a clear-eyed grasp of the true nature of Nazism, and his own enormous courage and resolution. For five days, Churchill dodged, delayed and refused to yield. He slowly brought along other war cabinet members, most crucially Cham-



Churchill neither dodging, delaying

berlain, to his profound belief that Hitler could be—had to be—defeated.

On May 27, an exasperated Halifax threatened to resign, a potential crisis that would have destroyed Churchill only days before. But the prime minister had the upper hand now, and after the two men emerged from a private walk in the garden of 10 Downing Street, Halifax was still in office. The next day, addressing the full cabinet, Churchill for the first time felt free to say: "Of course, whatever happens at Dunkirk, we shall fight on." Although it would be two years before Russian and American power finally turned the tide, Hitler was never again as close to victory as he was in those five days.

Churchill, with his customary magnanimity, made little mention of internal British divisions in his own memoirs. Describing that climactic cabinet meeting, he wrote that the panacea "came running to my chair, shouting and putting me on the back. There is no doubt that had I at this juncture looked at all in leading the nation, I should have been lashed out of office." That may have been true, but to adapt John Lukacs' more characteristic phrase, not nearly true enough.

Brian Beshure

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Without Winston Churchill, the war would have been lost in May, 1940

Lukacs: 'the importance of individuals in history'

collapse, and more than 300,000 Allied troops seemed trapped at Dunkirk. More miserably, defection was spreading through Britain's own ranks, and the nation's five-member war cabinet was broken on a knife edge.

Two members were recent arrivals, Labour Party leaders Clement Attlee and Arthur Greenwood. Very much the junior partners in the coalition government, they spoke little. The dominant members were the Conservatives: Churchill, prime minister for only two weeks and still widely distrusted by many in his own party; Neville Chamberlain, the former prime minister and architect of the prewar policy of appeasement; and Foreign Secretary

According to Ross Hovna, Group Show Manager of the National Home Show, "Home improvement spending has outperformed housing starts during most of this decade, and if the trend continues by the end of 2000 total home improvement sales in Canada are projected to exceed \$20 billion, a 25 per cent increase since 1995." David Swaffan, a partner at Realco Advisors in Markham, notes that the most sought-after features in the resale market are modern kitchens and bathrooms, open concepts with high ceilings, open wood floors and decorative columns.



Thinking of remodeling the kitchen? Modern kitchens are probably the top selling feature in any home. At this year's 49th National Home Show presented by Star Choice April 7-16 at the National Trade Centre at Exhibition Place, you can get a wealth of kitchen renovation ideas. (Photo courtesy of Inco Building Corporation)

See Hundreds of Ways to Fix Up Your Home

At this year's National Home Show you can visit over 800 exhibitors to help you create your dream home and get FREE advice from a host of high-profile home experts who will display their expertise in the "Bring It All Home Stage." Speakers include interior design experts like Lynette Jennings, "The Wall Wizard," Brian Santos and Margene Harris, editor of *Gardening Life*. The speakers will demonstrate everything from room, wall and window make-overs to gourmet cooking and gardening with pansache. The celebrity live-up showcases at the show are the final weekend with special guest appearances by the "Real Mark Sidelick," Richard Kohn (Al Berland), Ben Alvir's sidekick from TV's immensely popular *Home Improvement*.

Thinking of upgrading your kitchen fixtures? Meet the introduced the Pure Touch faucet that provides fresh filtered water at the touch of a button. Colgate® has developed an easy change solid carbon filter that reduces harmful impurities (demonstrates last year's water quality problem during the last summer months).



HOME Renovation Ideas TO INCREASE THE Resale Value OF YOUR HOME

Improving the resale value of your home is important to any homeowner. With Toronto housing prices on the rise, the need to maximize your present home investment is paramount if you are planning to buy. You can get a lot of home renovation ideas at this year's 49th National Home Show presented by Star Choice April 7-16 at the National Trade Centre at Exhibition Place.

Average Toronto Real Estate Prices		
	Average Price	Total Units Sold
1996	\$118,131	55,771
1997	\$213,317	51,054
1998	\$216,315	55,346
1999	\$226,000	41,000
2000*	\$232,490	40,751
*Projections Source: Royal LePage		

Lynette Jennings is one of North America's leading experts on home improvement and decorating trends. She will be making a special public appearance at the National Home Show throughout the opening weekend (April 7-16). At the "Bring It All Home Stage," Lynette will show the transformation of one room to reflect changes in family lifestyle from new trends to retro trends.

See the Todd Mann Sidelick (Al Berland) on Saturday April 15 during Home Improvement Day at the National Home Show. Richard Kohn, aka Al Berland in TV's hit comedy *Home Improvement* is taking a break from his busy acting schedule to meet with others who feel right at home with do-it-yourself projects and see a few photographs.

The highlight of the show is The Toronto Star Dream Home, a 3,400-sq-ft modern home built by Wind Ridge Developments, valued at \$1 million, built right inside the National Trade Centre. People will find the latest design and decor ideas ranging from colour schemes and kitchen and bath concepts to flooring, window treatments, furnishings and accents. Visitors get to reach your home from a model home elsewhere because the newest high-tech building materials and design concepts are introduced in a finished home setting.

If you are looking to do some landscaping, the DunderGlider Dream Gardens will showcase fully landscaped gardens and patios with fountains and water gardens. On Monday, April 10 and Tuesday, April 11, Margene Harris, editor of *Gardening Life* will present Peter Sessions Gardening and Pocket Gardening - gardening in difficult spaces. If you are planning to build a deck, go to the Learning Building: How-To Demonstrations that will provide expert presentations on building a deck and new paint/stain techniques.



Whether your heart's desire, it is a good bet that you will find it at the year's 49th National Home Show presented by Star Choice April 7-16 at the National Trade Centre at Exhibition Place.



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Music

Laughter through tears

Jann Arden still sings heartfelt ballads, but her comic side is steering her towards acting

By Nicholas Jennings

There isn't much that Jann Arden keeps hidden. The Calgary singer, known for intensely personal, soul-baring songs, has made a habit of talking about her life the way most pop stars talk about albums and tours. Whether it's family, love affairs, her battle with alcoholism or her appearance, Arden is unfailingly candid—and often hilarious. Sipping at a Toronto restaurant following a photo shoot in a nearby park, the musician, who turns 38 on March 27, expensed humor at the amount of lipstick that came off her mouth when she wiped it with a napkin. "Oh, my God," she said, inspecting herself in the reflection from a piece of silver cutlery. "The makeup artist really went to town. I should clean my face." Then, calling out in mock panic, she added: "Waiter, bring me a lemon washcloth." Although her face has been seen on magazine covers, television screens and, recently, the front of Special K boxes, Arden and promises to bring uncomfortable with celebrity. "I really don't know if I want to be the kind of public person," she says. "I honestly like my obscure little life, going to Winners with my mom and shopping for \$6 bras. That's where the real fun is."

Arden's ambivalence is surprising given that she's a major Canadian star, with worldwide sales of more than two million. In fact, the suborn-haired singer has had at least half a dozen years to get used to the limelight. Her debut album, *Time for Isley*, won her best new solo artist and best video awards at the 1994 Juno Awards. But her big breakthrough came that year with *Living Under Jones*. Featuring the international hit *Assurance*, the album won three major Junos and established Arden as a singer of intelligent, heart-wrenching ballads. The album has sold more than 1.5 million copies worldwide and has earned eight platinum awards in Canada for sales of 800,000 copies. Her last album, 1997's *Hoggy*, had significantly lower sales. But now, Universal Music is throwing its marketing muscle behind the singer's latest effort, the upstart, more commercially viable *Blood Red Cherry*. This spring, Arden embarks on a three-month Canadian tour.

The singer, a more upbeat, new album and an L.A. agent fielding scripts

Her star is destined to shine even brighter as she makes the transition to film and television. A wit with a stand-up comic's sense of timing, Arden has already headlined various music- and film-industry events, as well as the Just for Laughs comedy festival in Montreal. She has also made appearances on CBC's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* and *Royal Canadian Air Force*. Mack Scroggy, a Los Angeles-based agent who began courting the singer after seeing her at Just for Laughs last year and the year before, now represents her for all non-music-related projects and is actively fielding scripts. "When I first saw Jann, she was funnier than any act on

the bill," recalls Scroggy. "She was very musical, with an everywoman quality about her. She's like a Bette Midler for the new millennium."

At the moment, Arden's focus is on her music. Over a lunch of lobster soup and rum salad, the notoriously dimmer singer ("I've lost 35 lb. since October") spoke about making *Blood Red Cherry* for the first time, about a collaborator for the music, her longtime guitarist, Russell Brown. Rather than guitars, Arden and Brown used repeated drum recordings, known as "loops," as the starting point for the songs. This gave the material, especially *Sleepin*, *Cherry Pips* and *Jason*, more of a rhythmic feel than any of Arden's previous material. Some songs, like the blaring, wailing *Red Dens*, represent Arden's foray into dance, while others, including *Mind*, a tender duet with Blue Rodeo's Jim Cuddy, rank among her most moving. Meanwhile, *Another Phoenix Being* speaks to Arden's 1998 visit with the Masai tribe in Tanzania on behalf of World Vision.

As usual, most of Arden's lyrics deal with relationships. "I really don't know what else is important to write about," she says. And while she insists that "there is a lot of fiction involved," first-hand experience clearly informs her work. As for her own love life, she admits she is secondly single for the first



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What Matters to Canadians

Music

time in 15 years. "I've come out of two relationships over an 18-month period, the first of which had lasted five years," said Arden. "I've had it with everybody. It's scary but I don't know what I want. So I better stop and think about it." Then she adds: "My parents are trying to introduce me to their widowed friends. My mom says, 'It's only 61, Janis. Think not too old!'"

Despite her constant jokes about them, Arden remains close to her parents, Detroit and Jean Richards. Arden's song *Good Mother* from *Living Under Love* was a heartfelt tribute that is soon to be revived, both through inclusion in Sharon Stone's forthcoming movie *Boys and Girls* and in Tom Clavin's version on the country singer's next album. Recently, Arden bought a house in the country on the outskirts of Calgary, to be closer to her parents. Meanwhile, the co-owner a preening movie *Boys and Girls* star, The Arden, with her younger brother, Patrick. As for her older brother, Darryl, Arden told a *Star* staff, audience on New Year's Eve that he is serving a life sentence in a maximum security prison. He was convicted of murder in 1994. The singer explained she performed as his prison on the condition that he could be in the audience. "My brother had never seen me perform," she told the *Star* staff, "because when my mother came, he was already in prison." She adds: "He didn't cry until the last time, where I submitted 'Good Brother' for 'Good Mother'."

Arden has shed her share of tears over the years, and has struggled with a drinking problem that dates back to her teenage singing days in the 1980s. Even on this deeply personal issue, Arden is unapologetically frank. "I come from a long line of drunks," she says, "surrounding myself with people who are so much sicker than I am." But I've been sober again for a year now and have never felt more in control of my life. I took over my business in 1996, got myself a new manager, and now my office runs like a fine-tuned machine. It's so much happier. Now, if only she could get used to the celebrity thing. ■

Entertainment Notes

Actors, rock stars and model behaviour

What if about men and their dalliances with fashion models? Last week, Canadian actor Kiefer Sutherland, 33, filed for divorce from his wife of three years, Kelly Winn Sutherland, 37, a native of Toronto and former model who was once a *Star* staff. The couple, who married on Sept. 1, 1996, have been separated since

launch a charity CD, *Winn*, and accompanying video.

Mick Jagger, meanwhile, was back in court over his latest model affair. He lived with Lisa beauty Jerry Hall for 21 years, until she discovered, in 1998, his three-month affair with Brazilian lingerie model Luciana Moura, 30. Hall, who once starred Jagger, 56, had had 7,000



McCarthy, Mills, she is very impressive—we are all in it!



Sutherland, Winn Sutherland, Moura (top center), Jagger, accept publicity

her Jane, and Sutherland and incredible differences in his petting. On the other side of the pond, co-Bride Paul McCartney confirmed that he is dating Heather Mills, a former underwear model and actress for the disabled. McCartney, 57, whose wife Linda, died of breast cancer in 1998, said in a statement that "we're very good friends. She's a very impressive woman. We are an item." Mills, 32, lost her left leg below the knee in a 1993 road accident. She and McCartney met when he helped her

loven in his lifetime. Finally dumped her husband when Moura told the world she was pregnant with his baby. She was right. Last week, blood tests confirmed the Rolling Stone's paternity. And in Manhattan family court, Jagger—who has six other children and two granddaughters—said he had no objection to being listed as the father on the birth certificate of Lucas Maurice Nigel Jagger, born last May 18. The model also agreed in court to pay Moura \$16,000 in monthly child support.

Pop Movies

1. <i>Willy Wonka & Chocolate Factory</i> (PG-13)	\$1,980,740
2. <i>The Matrix</i> (R)	\$1,879,160
3. <i>The Matrix Reloaded</i> (PG-13)	\$1,826,110
4. <i>My Big Fat Greek Wedding</i> (PG)	\$1,824,280
5. <i>American Beauty</i> (PG-13)	\$1,750,410
6. <i>The Hot Chick</i> (PG-13)	\$1,690,490
7. <i>Love Day</i> (PG)	\$1,650,150
8. <i>The Day After Tomorrow</i> (PG)	\$1,640,150
9. <i>Planet 51</i> (PG)	\$1,630,470
10. <i>Who's Your Favorite?</i> (PG)	\$1,610,150

The movie in Canada, ranked according to box office grossing over the week that ended on March 16. (In brackets: number of screens/weeks showing.)

Source: Entertainment Weekly Inc.



Sutherland, Mills, she is very impressive—we are all in it!

First love
Scaring three talented young actors who are also easy on the eyes, *Her on Earth* is the latest take on the teenage love triangle. Kelley (Chris Klein) is a cocky rich kid attending private school who looks horns with Jasper (Josh Hartsen), a popular local—then took tips with Jasper's girlfriend, Samantha (Lelee Sobieski). Canadian actor Bruce Greenwood (*Exotica* and *The Saver*) plays Samantha's father.

The power of talk

Professional scholars have traditionally disdained popular history, whether in print or on the screen. So it comes as a surprise to find Natalie Zeman Davis, a professor emerita at Princeton University and one of the most distinguished social historians in North America, praising Stanley Kubrick's 1990 epic, *Spartacus*, as an "invaluable" film that engages "spectators in the dialogue with the past." But 71-year-old Davis's thought-provoking "Slaves and

Screen," her Flann O'Brien lecture on the value of historical films, is of a piece with previous talks at what has become a major academic and cultural event.

After journalist Barbara Herrnstein Smith died of leukemia in 1992, her husband, Murray, established an annual history lecture in her name in conjunction with the University of Toronto. In the five years since British military historian John Keegan kicked off the series with "The

Zeman Davis, a major academic and cultural event

Battle for History" CBC Radio has taped the lectures for broadcast, while Random House publishes them in expanded form. Open free to the public, the talks now draw

such crowds that the university—which last year turned away about 200 people after filling a 450-seat hall—has moved the March 21 event to its largest space, the 1,500-seat Convocation Hall.

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Entertainment Notes

Best Sellers

Fiction		SPUR
1. SHREDDER UP FOR THE GENERAL , Gary Trudeau	2	
2. THE BROTHERS, aka Gutterballs	3	
3. WINDING JONES: THE LURE OF MARIANA , Michael Chabon	3	
4. A GOOD WIFE , Terence Winter	37	
5. LOVE OF COUNTRY , Jay Giedd	5	
6. NO BLOOD KITCHEN , Jeffrey Deaver	40	
7. WARRIOR IN WINTER , Kate DiCamillo	42	
8. THE CITY OF GOD , J.J. Serrano	50	
9. WOLFGANG , Michael Chabon	52	
10. FLUGELN , Tracy Treacy	53	
Nonfiction		
1. 50 , Frank McCourt	1	
2. WOLFGANG WIM WOLFGANG , Ulrich Abel	2	
3. WINTER KITCHEN , Jeffrey Deaver	3	
4. THE CITY OF GOD , J.J. Serrano	4	
5. WOLFGANG , Michael Chabon	5	
6. WOLFGANG , Michael Chabon	6	
7. THE CITY OF GOD , J.J. Serrano	7	
8. THE CITY OF GOD , J.J. Serrano	8	
9. THE CITY OF GOD , J.J. Serrano	9	
10. THE CITY OF GOD , J.J. Serrano	10	

(1 Study in 10. Compiled by Bruce Andrew)

Boys will be boys

Parents may not want to let their young sons have a look at *Up to Me: A Good (Chore) Book*, but it's a good idea. But Wiley Hamman's book, subtitled *The Rascally Things Boys Do*, may reassure those who have wondered just what mischief has fallen into their nest. "Perfectly decent grown men," as the author describes them, lovingly recall the central fascinations of boyhood around the world—from floundering and things that burn to go boons, to something insects and younger men. Adult readers will alternately laugh or recoil in horror from the memories—the boy who convinced his younger cousin that peeing on an electric fence would be an enjoyable experience, for instance, or the 13-year-olds who used to throw dirt at one another in a darkened basement. But parents can take heart: all those telling the tales, and even their victims—the burnt ones, or any one—survived their childhoods.



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Allan Fotheringham

Ah, to be a media magnate

It was the greatest lead sentence of a newspaper article of all time. And it lasted just one edition in the *Chicago Tribune*.

Leopold and Loeb arrived in the most sensational crime of the 1920s. Brilliant college boys, sons of Chicago millionaires, they decided to prove their brilliance with "the perfect crime." They knew and had befriended a neighbourhood teenager, Bobby Frank. So they murdered him.

Caught, of course, they were sent to jail for life. But Loeb was subbed to death in the prison shower over an inmate's suggestion. The *Tribune* story began: "Richard Loeb, a genius with an IQ of 179, yesterday ended his sentence with a proposition." It lasted only one edition after a lowly editor with no sense of humour killed it.

That was Chicago journalism in the Ben Hiecht/Al Capone days, the *Tribune* owned by the eccentric Cal. Robert R. McCormick, who denounced the King of England in front-page editorials and earned on public feuds with such as Franklin Roosevelt who he thought was probably a Communist.

Farther west was the *Los Angeles Times*, another freedom run by another red-tipped conservative, Gus Harrison Gray Ows, who proved A. J. Liebling's great line: "Freedom of the press is guaranteed to those who own one." (Pierre Berton, on his TV interview show, once opened his encounter with John Buzant, publisher of the *Toronto Telegram*, with a devastating accusation: "Mr. Buzant, is it not true that you use your paper to reward your friends and punish your enemies?" A beaming Buzant replied: "Of course. Why else would you want to own a newspaper?" The interview last some years after that.)

Ows handed his paper down to son Harry Chandler and grandson Norman Chandler in the stern belief that Southern Californians would remain the Republican heartland. ("In the capitalist world, freedom of the press negates the freedom to buy the newspapers and those who edit them, as well as the freedom to buy, corrupt and mould public opinion in the interests of the bourgeoisie."—Madeline Tjeh Loefer.)

Kyle Palmer was the chief political correspondent of the *L.A. Times*. The paper had grown rich on real estate and Harry Chandler was the largest land baron in Southern California. In the 1930s, *New York Times* reporter Turner Catledge—later managing editor—went out to cover Upton Sinclair, the Palmer Prize-winning author who

was running on the socialist ticket for governor of California.

There was no mention of Sinclair at all in the *L.A. Times*. Over dinner, Palmer explained: "Finger it. We don't go in for that kind of crap that you have back in New York of being obliged to print both sides. We're going to beat this son-of-a-bitch Sinclair any way we can. We're going to tell him." Which his paper, naturally, did.

For 40 years, Kyle Palmer chose the candidates for the Republicans, laid down party policies, actually floor-managed bills through the legislature in Sacramento and told governors which bills to reject. He was the political boss of California. He and the *Times* counted Richard Nixon.

One Saturday in the 1950s, while this scumbler was pursuing his insane dream to represent Canada at the Olympics in a half-mile, there arrived at a snack meet at Bixby Oval in Stanley Park in Vancouver a large blond with muscles in his muscles. It was Ott Chandler, great-grandson of the general, and he was the college shot-put champion of California.

He looked too pretty to have any brains and, once installed as publisher, earned the *L.A. Times* into the third best paper in the U.S., behind *The New York Times* and Ben Bradlee's *Washington Post*. Now retired, he has departed over his paper, especially since, in 1995, it brought in as CEO one Mark Willis, an executive from General Mills who had no newspaper experience at all and set about to destroy the church-and-state journalistic tradition—a paper's cherished editorial separation from the business side.

So it comes to no surprise, one summer, at last week's news that—in the age of globalization—something called the *Tribune Co.* has purchased *The Times Mirror Co.* And no one bothered to tell the *Times'* CEO what was going on. Which means the giddy Midwest outfit that owns 22 TV stations and the TV Food Network now gobbles up the *La-La-Land* gang that owns such as *Field of Dreams*, *S&W Magazine* and *Misses Busting & Sinking*.

Scribes at the *Tribune* now goggle over the fact their paycheques are financed by how the popular TV show *Baywatch* the *Maxxer* *Slayer* is owned by their employer who once found humour even in Richard Loeb's death.

The General Mills guy can go back to his cereals, where he belongs. There's not much fun anymore.



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CAFÉ

1 OZ. GRAND MARNIER. 1 CUP BREWED COFFEE. TOP WITH WHIPPED CREAM. ENJOY.

GRAND MARNIER. IT CHANGES EVERYTHING.

Want to try and catch me?

Be my guest.

Because by the time you get to where I am,
I'm already somewhere else.

It's an agility afforded by
a powerful Twin Cam 3.5L 215 hp V6 engine
and the Precision Control System,
a micrographed computer-controlled braking system
that keeps me precisely where I want to be
somewhere just ahead of right now.

Then, like a silver shadow
rounding a corner,
I disappear
without flourish or fanfare.

Pleased to have almost
made your acquaintance.



THE 2000 STERLING EDITION **INTRIGUE** BY OLDSMOBILE



START SOMETHING

Find out more at gmeanada.com or 1-800-GM-DRIVE.